PALL MALL GAZETTE

An Evening Newspaper and Review.

No. 7451.—Vol. XLIX. *SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 2, 1889.* *Price One Penny.*

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE.
(Augustus Harris, Lessee and Manager.)
TO-DAY, at 1.30 and 7.30, THE BABES IN THE WOOD. Messrs. Harry Nicholls, Herbert Campbell, C. Lauri, jun., Stevens, Leno, Griffiths Bros., Andrews, Inch, Pleon, Henderson, Stanley, Dezano, and Harry Payne; Mesdames Florence Dysart, Maggie Duggan, Mayer, ÆNEA, Grey, Charteris, Deering, and Harriet Vernon. Box-office open daily from 10 to 6.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.30 precisely, the new original Drama, by Mr. Haddon Chambers, entitled "CAPTAIN SWIFT." (LAST SIX NIGHTS.) Mr. Tree, Mr. Macklin, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Fuller Mellish, Mr. Allan, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Brookfield; Lady Monckton, Miss Rose Leclercq, Miss Cudmore, and Mrs. Tree. Preceded, at 7.50, by THE DUCHESS OF BAYSWATER AND CO. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open daily, 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE TO-DAY (Saturday), at 2.30.
WEDNESDAY MATINEES.—MASKS AND FACES, WEDNESDAYS, February 6, and February 13, at 2.30. Mr. Tree as Triplet, Mrs. Bernard Beere as Peg Woffington, Mrs. Tree as Mabel Vane, and Haymarket Company. Seats may now be booked.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Irving.)
MACBETH, TO-NIGHT, at 7.45. Overture 7.40. Macbeth, Mr. Henry Irving; Lady Macbeth, Miss Ellen Terry. Messrs. Alexander, Wenman, Tyars, Webster, Howe, Haviland, Harvey, Johnson, Kaynor, Outram, Lacy, Archer, &c.; Misses Marriott, Seaman, Desborough, Coleridge, Ivor, &c. Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages 11.—LYCEUM.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Wyndham.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.50, STILL WATERS RUN DEEP. Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM, Messrs. H. Standing, G. Giddens, W. Blakeley, &c.; Miss MARY MOORE and Mrs. BERNARD-BEERE. Preceded by, at 8.10, A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS. Doors open at 7.45. N.B.—MATINEE of STILL WATERS RUN DEEP, EVERY SATURDAY, at 3.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.
THE DON. Mr. J. L. TOOLE. EVERY EVENING, at 8.30. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merivale's successful Comedy, in Three Acts, THE DON. 238th Time. TO-DAY at 2. Doors open at 1.30.

SAVOY THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Manager, R. D'Oyly Carte.)
TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.15, the New and Original Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, entitled THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD; or, THE MERRYMAN AND HIS MAID. Preceded at 7.20 by MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Doors open at 2 and 7. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Box-office open continuously from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. Gatti, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.0, THE SILVER FALLS. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, W. L. Abingdon, Eardley Turner, J. Carne, W. Erskine, James East, H. Russell; Mesdames Millward, O. Nethersole, G. Esmond, A. Dairolles, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, Farce.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Mr. Thomas Thorne, Sole Lessee and Manager.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.50, THAT DOCTOR CUPID. At 7.50, THE POET. Mr. Thomas Thorne; Messrs. Cyril Maude, Frank Gillmore, Scott Buist, F. Grove, Pagden, J. Wheatman, and Fred Thorne; Misses Fanny Robertson, Dolores Drummond, Annie Irish, Marion Lea, Maunder, and Winifred Emery, &c. Doors open, 7.30. Box-office open, 10 to 6.30. MATINEE of THAT DOCTOR CUPID, TO-DAY (Saturday). Overture at 2.30.

GAIETY THEATRE.
THIS DAY, at 2.30, FAUST UP TO DATE, and THIS EVENING, at 7.30, FIRST MATE. At 8.30, FAUST UP TO DATE. Miss Florence St. John, Miss Violet Cameron, Miss Marie Illington, Miss Fanny Robina, Miss Jenny M'Nulty, Miss Lillian Price, Miss M. Jones, Miss F. Levey, Miss A. Young, Miss E. Greville, Miss M. Wilmot, Miss M. Love; Mr. E. J. Lonnen, Mr. H. Parker, Mr. Charles Ross, Mr. E. Haslem, and Mr. George Stone.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Terry.)
The safest Theatre in the world, constructed entirely with concrete and iron absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout by electricity.
TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.30, SWEET LAVENDER, by A. W. Pinero. 335rd Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, L. D'Orsay, H. Reeves Smith, Sant Matthews, Prince Miller; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, and Blanche Horlock. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2,702.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.

GLOBE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee, Mr. Richard Mansfield.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.45, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER. Preceded by, at 8, EDITHA'S BURGLAR. Mr. Lionel Brough as the Burglar. SATURDAY, Feb. 9, SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL. Miss Kate Vaughan as Lady Teazle. Upon the return to this theatre of Mr. Mansfield, early in March, Shakespeare's Tragedy, RICHARD III., will be played.

OPERA COMIQUE THEATRE, Strand.
(Lessee, F. J. Harris.)
UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF MRS. OSCAR BERINGER.
EVERY EVENING at 8.30, TARES, a Play in Three Acts, by Mrs. Oscar Beringer. Mr. J. Forbes Robertson, Messrs. C. W. Somerset, G. Canninge, E. Hendrie, W. Guise, and J. G. Grahame; Miss Kate Rorke, Misses Mary Collette, Marie Hudspeth, Gracie Murielle, Mrs. Edmund Phelps, and Miss Gertrude Kingston. Preceded by, at 7.45, A REGULAR FIX. Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. E. Hendre, &c.—Business Manager, Henry Ball.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. John Wood and Mr. Arthur Chudleigh.
(Under the management of Mrs. John Wood.)
EVERY EVENING, at 9.0, LES SURPRISES DU DIVORCE, adapted by Sydney Grundy, and entitled MAMMA. 119th Performance. Preceded at 8 by BOX AND COX. Doors open 7.45. Box-office open 10 to 10. Telephone 3,031. MATINEE of MAMMA TO-DAY (Saturday), and EVERY SATURDAY, at 3.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Horace Sedger.)
TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.15, PAUL JONES. Preceded by, at 7.30, JOHN SMITH. Misses Agnes Huntington, Phyllis Broughton, Kate Cutler, St. Cyr, Jeanie Mills, and Miss Wadman; Messrs. Harry Monkhouse, Henry Ashley, Templer Saxe, Albert James, George Preston, and Frank Wyatt. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Henry J. Leslie.)
TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.15, DOROTHY, 365th Performance. Mesdames Effie Chapuy, C. Saumarez, H. Coveney, F. Neville, and Amy Augarde; Messrs. Ben Davies, Furneaux Cook, Arthur Williams, J. Le Hay, S. King, and C. Hayden Coffin. At 7.30, WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Manager, Mr. H. Watkin.)
TO-DAY, at 2, and TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, NADGY. Mdlle. Vanoni, Mr. Arthur Roberts, and powerful company. Conducted by Mr. John Crook. Preceded at 7.30 by QUITS. Doors open at 7.15; Box-office open daily from 10 to 5 o'clock. Telephone 3,241. MORNING PERFORMANCES, doors open 1.30.—R. D'Albertson, Acting Manager.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
TO-DAY, at 3 and 7.30, Grand Pantomime, CINDERELLA, under direction of Oscar Barrett. Messrs. Edward Righton, Clarence J. Hague, and John D'Auban; Mesdames Susie Vaughan, Emma D'Auban, Mary Righton, Kate Vito, Amy Liddon, and Edith Bruce.

A PROTEST AND AN APPEAL.

THERE was issued in London to-day the first copy of the new morning newspaper—the English edition of the *New York Herald*. The day has gone by when the *Herald* was the first of American newspapers in enterprise and in circulation, but that is no reason why we should not welcome the little stranger, and extend to the new comer all the good wishes and hospitable consideration that is due to those who boldly essay to achieve so difficult a success. Unfortunately, there is one feature about the new venture which renders this impossible.

The distinctive feature of the new morning journal is that, as its promoters proudly boast, it is the only journal in Great Britain that is published seven days a week. To-morrow, Sunday, the rest day of our profession, will be no rest day for the unfortunate toilers who are harnessed to the chariot of Mr. Gordon Bennett in the Strand. Journalists in these islands are not Sabbatarians by any means. There are many Sunday journals with enormous circulations printed, published, and sold every Sunday in London. But never, until the advent of this foreign sheet, has any newspaper in the three kingdoms been published on conditions which render it impossible for its staff, from the editor to the printer's devil, to enjoy one day off every week. We are, therefore, face to face with an attempt made by a capitalist to add still more to his gains by the plunder of the English rest day. Against that we raise a protest which we hope will be taken up by every journalist in Great Britain.

We base our protest upon the broadest ground of humanity. It is not a question of religion, but one of health, and the opportunities for leisure which make life worth living. We are not protesting now against the Sunday newspaper. No one needs to tell us or any journalist that there is much more Sunday work done on a Monday morning paper than there will be upon the American news-sheet which will be sold in the streets to-morrow. It is not on the Sabbatarian ground that we take our stand. In proof of this, we will say at once that if Mr. Gordon Bennett will drop his issue on any other day of the week, we shall abandon our protest at once. What we protest against is the cruel and most mischievous innovation of compelling the staff of any daily newspaper to produce that newspaper seven days a week. It is a social crime of the first magnitude, which must be prevented at the very outset, otherwise we shall find to our cost that "the Sunday newspaper has come to stay" in England as in America and on the Continent. It would be a grave mistake to say that the more or less ephemeral appearance of this little American paper seven days a week does not matter. It is never safe to allow the introduction of the thin end of the wedge. If once the precedent is established, the example of the *New York Herald* will be invoked on the first great public excitement to justify the appearance of some of our great morning dailies seven days a week, and when that happens, the weekly rest of the journalist and the compositor will vanish all along the line. American journalists struggled against it for a time, but one after another they all succumbed. With the example of their fate before us, it would be madness to ignore the fatal consequences of acquiescence in the first breach in the hitherto unbroken rampart which has preserved to one of the hardest worked professions in Britain the six-day working week.

What is the use of agitating for a limitation of the hours of labour per day when in the great industry which supplies the material for thought and paves the pathway of progress the hours of labour per week are lengthened arbitrarily by one-sixth? It is here where the combined forces of labour reformers, trade unionists, Socialists, and philanthropists must take their stand. For the sake of a profession of which we are justly proud, and for the sake of our fellow workers who already feel the nervous and physical strain of the work as much as they can bear, we are bound to take prompt and effective action against the attempt permanently to impair the conditions of our daily life. The inheritance which we received from our fathers it is our duty and privilege to transmit intact to our sons. First of all there ought to be a courteous but firm representation to the promoters of the innovation that English journalists, regardless of party, resent the infringement of the immunity which has hitherto been enjoyed in this nation. We are loth to believe that Mr. Gordon Bennett will persist in an enterprise in face of a unanimous protest from the English press. But in defending our most dearly prized liberties it does not do to depend upon the forbearance of any individual. The Society which exists in order to defend the interest of compositors should at once prepare for action. No Society men should work on a seven-day ship. The trade unions should support the Society in imposing an interdict essential to the interests of labour. But the working classes should not be left alone to wage the battle of the Six-day week. They should be supported by all those who sympathize with the great movement of our time for the amelioration of the condition of labour. To our religious teachers we need make no appeal. They would be false to their principles if they spared any and every effort in their power to defeat an attempt to filch from the people their right to cease from labour one day in seven. But we do especially appeal to those leaders of thought and of action to whom Sabbatarianism is mere superstition to take the lead in this matter. The Sabbatarian has hitherto boasted that only the theological sanction was strong enough to preserve intact a day of rest. Now is the golden opportunity for the others to prove that this is not the case. It is upon their acquiescence that the promoters of this new venture calculate. We trust and believe that the result will prove that they have reckoned without their host. A prompt, vigorous, and emphatic expression of public opinion would probably crush a project which, if persisted in, would compel all right-thinking men to regard the newly born newspaper as a public enemy of the whole community. That, however, we hope will not be necessary. But it depends upon each and all of us who are determined to maintain our right to one day's rest to protest, and to protest at once. Afterwards it may be too late.

THE ALDERMAN QUESTION.

The Views of County Councillors thereon.

In the course of the last few days we have received from a large number of county councillors answers to an additional circular, in which special questions were asked with regard to the aldermen. The results of the circulars generally will be embodied in a forthcoming "Popular Guide to the County Council;" but the answers upon the burning question of the moment are so interesting, and throw so much light upon the views and aims of the different groups in the Council, that we proceed at once to give some extracts from them.

The first of our new questions was, "Are you in favour of electing a lady to the office of alderman?" Here there was so much agreement that it is not worth while to dwell upon the answers. Our second question was the burning one: "Are you in favour of electing aldermen (*a*) solely from outside, (*b*) solely from amongst the elected members of the Council, or (*c*) in what proportion from both classes?" The answers to this question show in an amusing way both the absurdity and the hopelessness of the gerrymanderer's case. You can only run a party machine when all your men are of one make, and will fit precisely in. But amongst the Progressives on this question of the aldermen—so far from their being mere ciphers—there are almost as many opinions as there are men. Some are for taking the aldermen wholly from outside; others for taking them wholly from inside; whilst between these two extremes there is every shade of opinion represented. But what dooms the packing policy to defeat, even more than the diversity of opinion, is the want of logic and the defiance of principle on the part of those who support it. Indeed, among the answers before us there is only one which rests the election of all the aldermen from the outside upon principle at all. This is the answer of Mr. W. H. Dickinson (Wandsworth), who says: "Solely from outside, as this is the only way by which the Council can carry out the Democratic principle that a governing body should fairly represent the people. By electing from within vacancies are caused and particular localities obtain more representatives on the Council than they are entitled to."

The general line of the answers is to admit that the principle of outside election is bad, but to urge that as any other course might jeopardize Progressive seats the principle should go to the wall. Thus, Mr. Haggis

LITERARY NOTES, NEWS, AND ECHOES.

The article in the *Contemporary Review* on "The Bismarck Dynasty" has given a great impetus to the sale of that periodical, which already—two days after publication—has reached a second edition.

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The editing of the new edition of "Modern Painters," noticed in the *Pall Mall Gazette* yesterday, has been done by two of Mr. Ruskin's old Oxford pupils—Mr. Gershom Collingwood and Mr. Wedderburn. Mr. Collingwood has exercised a general editorial supervision, and is responsible for the collation of all the earlier editions. Mr. Wedderburn (the editor of "Arrows of the Chace") compiled the voluminous index, which is a monument of intelligent industry.

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Mr. Laurence Hutton, the author of "Literary Landmarks of London," is coming over from America to England for three months in the spring. Places, by the way, no less than prophets, seem to be chiefly honoured out of their own country. The charming volume recently published upon the literary and historical associations of "Old Chelsea" is by an American author; while Mr. Laurence Hutton's book is certainly the best of any popular treatises on its subject.

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The author of that powerful but unpleasant novel "The Silence of Dean Maitland" and of "The Reproach of Annesley," now running in *Murray's Magazine* is, says the *Rialto*, a lady. "Maxwell Gray" is a *nom de plume*, the lady's real name being Uttiel. She is a hopeless invalid—the only child of a physician practising in the Isle of Wight. Lord Tennyson is said to be a strong admirer of her genius.

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Apropos of the anniversary of the Ayrshire poet just celebrated it is amusing to note that a suggestion was recently made in a Glasgow paper to Bowdlerize Burns in the interests of the temperance party. It was, for instance, hinted that the line in "Duncan Gray," "On blithe Yule nicht, when we were fou," should be allowed to lapse, and the words, "As the auld year near'd the new," substituted. If this is a fair sample of the emendations proposed Burns had better be left alone.

Much more interesting and important is the statement that a miniature of Mrs. M'Lehose, of Edinburgh, the "Clarinda" of Burns's songs and letters, has just been discovered at Dumfries. It is believed to be the miniature for which the lady sat at the request of the poet, and of which she made him a gift. It is now in the possession of Mr. John M'Allister, Dumfries, and can be traced back to the poet. Unfortunately it is cracked, and had long lain neglected in a little box. The portrait, which is executed on ivory, and is only about an inch in length, is said to closely resemble that given in Gilfillan's edition of the poet's works.

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Mr. Baring Gould is about to publish a collection of Devonshire songs which he has been for several years compiling. The novelist, whose love of Devonshire equals that exhibited in the works of Charles Kingsley, is very anxious that the old poetry of the county should not give place to poorer modern rhymes. Mr. Baring Gould was, of course, an antiquarian before he was a novelist, and he has therefore accomplished his task with an expert's skill. The clergyman's first work of fiction, by the way, dealt with the ecclesiastical history of France. Under the queer name of "In Exitu Israel" the book had few readers, and is now never inquired for at Mudie's.

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Here is a description of Mr. Wilkie Collins given by a correspondent of the New York *Critic*:—

We who had the pleasure of meeting Wilkie Collins at the dinner lately given by the Incorporated Society of British Authors to American men and women of letters were pained to see how decrepit this great fictionist has become. He leans upon a stick, and is so bent that walking seems an effort. His features, however, have been peculiarly refined by age: his face is sweet and noble, while behind his powerful spectacles there shines the clear light of that intellectual force which has produced some of the most thrilling romances ever penned in any language.

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Reynolds' Newspaper has been wont to boast that it is the only Republican journal published in England. Messrs. Macmillan, I am interested to see, are anxious to establish a similar reputation among publishers. In the prospectus of their "English Men of Action," they say that this series of biographies "will be confined to subjects of the British crown who have been conspicuous for their actions in its service." The second name on the list of the "subjects" is that of Henry the Fifth. It is evident that in their opinion the British crown did not belong to King Henry, for the commonalty was the true king and Henry was its subject.

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Natural advantages have much to do with the localizing of many industries. The moisture of Lancashire has led to cotton weaving being developed there beyond elsewhere, but we had not heard that printing could be influenced thereby. Still, it is now stated that the reason why the Americans have succeeded so well with the printing of fine illustrations for their magazines and books is purely a question of climate. A printer of great experience says that the beautiful depth of tone to be noted in American work is due to the dryer atmosphere across the Atlantic. This, if true, will explain why the same results have not been secured on this side even with identical materials.

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An investigation into the Civil List pensions granted since the accession of the Queen has been conducted for the committee of the Incorporated Society of Authors by Mr. W. Morris Colles. The list of pensions, showing the names, amounts, and the grounds for which they were given, has been reprinted, and will be published in a few days, with comments and suggestions bearing upon the neglect of literature, science, and art.

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Odds and Ends:—Mr. P. W. Clayden (of the *Daily News*) is writing a supplementary volume to his life of Rogers, which will be called "Samuel Rogers and his Contemporaries."—Mr. W. A. Sothern is writing the life of his grandfather, Mr. William Alexander, "A Christian and Political Reformer," among whose correspondents were Lord Holland, Sir John Bowring, Dr. Martineau, Mr. Bright, Cobden, Joseph Hume, and W. C. Bryant.—Mr. A. H. Bullen, the well-known editor of the Elizabethan dramatists, and of "Selections from Elizabethan Lyrics," is to give some lectures in Oxford this term, on Michael Drayton and other Elizabethans.—Laurence Oliphant's widow is going to superintend an "authorized memoir" of her late husband.—Mr. G. A. Aitken's "Life of Steele," containing (it is said) much fresh information, will be published next autumn by Messrs. Isbister.—Mr. G. T. Bettany announces for publication by subscription a Life of Thomas Guy, combined with a history of Guy's Hospital.—Mrs. Oliphant's new novel, to be published shortly by Messrs. Macmillan, is called "Neighbours on the Green."—The Oxford University Dramatic Society will produce "Julius Cæsar" at the new theatre on Wednesday, February 27. Mr. Alma Tadema has designed most of the scenes, and Professor Herkomer has also given his assistance. X. Y. Z.

West Southwark) says: "I would not draw a hard and fast line in this matter. I should select the best men available irrespective of whether they were inside or outside the Council. Although theoretically election from the inside is the true Democratic principle, yet it is practically inconvenient and burdensome to subject constituencies to a second contested election immediately after one is over." To similar effect Mr. R. S. Jackson (Greenwich) says: "Under present conditions, and with a view to secure strength to the reformers on the Council, I say select solely from outside. If a by-election were to occur now the whole of the anti-reformers' resources would be concentrated upon the one electoral division, and vehicles from all parts of the metropolis would be sent by our opponents. Having all the elections held on the one day, and the 'one man one vote' principle being then in vogue, greatly assisted the return of the reformers, in my opinion."

The objection of the electors to the multiplication of elections is the ground taken by two or three members. Thus, Mr. Æneas Smith (Chelsea) says: "I am in favour of electing them from outside, as I do not like more elections. I would, however, abolish aldermen." And, similarly, Mr. Samuel (Whitechapel) says:—"I am in favour of electing aldermen solely from among elected members of the Council; but as, owing to the School Board elections falling so closely upon the County Council elections, the constituencies object as a rule to fresh elections, I am in favour of electing from both classes in equal proportions." The next two answers are less explicit, but probably amount to the same purpose. Mr. A. M. Torrance (East Islington) says: "I am more in favour of election from inside the elected members; but this view is so beset with difficulties in carrying out, that I shall vote for the best men (or women) either inside or outside." Mr. Thornton (Bermondsey) says: "I would prefer that aldermen should have passed through the hands of the electors, but would not draw any line." Mr. Hubbard (Norwood) says: "From inside; but in the position we are in, rather than damage our cause, would go outside for them." A case which rests by the admission of its advocates on this thin ground of party expediency is in a bad way.

But still more desperate are the straits of those who try to defend it on broader grounds. Thus Mr. Rhodes (West Southwark) says: "Solely from outside. The provision for aldermen is a blot in the Act. I desire to lessen its mischief." Similarly Mr. Tims (Battersea) says: "Under present circumstances I am in favour of electing aldermen from the outside. All reformers seem to agree that aldermen are an anomaly. I desire their abolition." The institution of aldermen is bad, say these gentlemen, and should be abolished. Do they, therefore, propose to minimize its badness, by electing the aldermen from inside and thus preserving the principle of popular election? Not a bit of it, they propose to magnify the evil of which they affect to complain by taking the precisely contrary course. "We are for abolishing non-popular election," they argue; "therefore we shall vote for it." The logic is peculiar.

We are not surprised, after reading the answers in favour of the gerrymandering scheme, to find that some of its opponents speak out strongly. Here, for instance, is what Mr. G. W. Osborn (Chelsea)—a Progressive, be it observed, of the Progressives—says on the subject: "I am in favour of electing as aldermen good men, quite irrespective of politics. The determination to pack the Council with men of one party, who may be relied upon to support certain people for paid offices, will lessen the inclination which, I believe, exists among the best men of both political parties to give increased powers to the Council. I am opposed to aldermen altogether, but so long as they exist I would elect as many as possible from inside, in order that the ratepayers might have a voice in the new men."

As a specimen of answers which do not fall under any of the heads already discussed, we may give the following—Mr. W. M. Acworth (Dulwich): "For aldermen I shall vote for the nineteen legally qualified persons who in my judgment are best fitted to assist in the government of London, whether defeated or not. If nineteen such persons are not to be found outside the Council, then there may be some reason for electing councillors whose services London can already command." Mr. H. L. W. Lawson, M.P. (West St. Pancras): "I consider the first election of aldermen stands by itself. Thinking only of the strength and dignity of the Council for the good of London, I would get the best men, irrespective of party politics, from outside." Mr. William Saunders (Walworth): "I would carry out the existing law in a manner most likely to give a good Council, although I think that the law should not allow any member to sit without being elected. Working men should be elected as aldermen because they have largely assisted to return the Progressive members." Mr. Walter Wren (N.E. Bethnal-green): "I am wholly against aldermen altogether. I want to see London and all County Councils wholly and perfectly 'representative.'"

Is Defeat at the Polls a Disqualification?

The answers under this question—though partly covered by those already given—are interesting enough to be worth "sampling." It is an amusing instance of the different threads in the modern Tory party that some of the Tory members should disregard, and others almost worship, the principle of popular election. Thus, Mr. B. L. Cohen (City) "regards it neither as a qualification, or disqualification, but as having no bearing on the subject of his fitness for the office, by which alone in my judgment the choice should be determined." But, on the other hand, there is the true "Tory-Democrat" note in the reply of Mr. H. H. Marks (East Marylebone): "I think it most inadvisable to elect as aldermen men whom the public has refused to elect as councillors. The public knows whom it wants, and its voice should be respected." Herein Mr. Marks is at one with a Progressive member, Mr. J. Jones (South Hackney), who writes: "I have a very strong feeling upon this subject—every person sitting in that Council should be elected directly by the people; as this cannot be done at present with aldermen, the best and most proper thing to do now is to select from those who have already been elected by the ratepayers. I am very pleased to see the course that the *Pall Mall* is taking in regard to the election of aldermen. I do not believe in men being pitchforked into office who do not care to put themselves to the trouble of contesting a seat."

The more cautious, half-and-half view is represented in the following answers:—Mr. Harben (Hampstead): "With certain distinguished men, such as Sir Thomas Farrer, I should make an exception, but I think that I ought to respect as much as possible the verdict of the people." Mr. Hubbard (Norwood): "Not an absolute disqualification, but should think twice before giving my vote to a gentleman who had been rejected by the electors." Mr. Thornton (Bermondsey): "It would have to be a very exceptional case where I would support any one who had been refused by the electors." Mr. Nathan Robinson (East St. Pancras): "Not absolutely; but all other conditions being equal should certainly vote in favour of one not defeated at the poll." Mr. W. Gibson Bott (West Newington): "As a rule, yes. But where the defeat has arisen from a plethora of candidates on given lines, and the votes polled on those are in the majority—no."

There is a good deal of force in this last argument, as also in Mr. Lawson's terse reply, "No; for we elect aldermen for London as a whole." In contrast with which sentiment it is instructive to read the answer of Mr. Tims (Battersea)—a good man temporarily led astray by his genius for management. "I do not consider it," says Mr. Tims, "a disqualification. A good candidate might contest a West-end constituency for an object and not get returned, whereas if he or she contested an East-end constituency or other advanced place their success would be assured." The Progressive members, it would thus appear, should use their majority to run in such of their candidates as were defeated elsewhere. Very smart practice, no doubt; but it is not wise, it is not democratic, and it will not be carried out.

Finally, it may be interesting to give the names and the numbers of the members who answered the "aldermen questions" which we have been describing:—

Women as "Aldermen."

Q.—"Are you in favour of electing a lady to the office of alderman?"

Yes, 31; "have no objection," 4; ambiguous answers, 4; no, 13.

The names of those who answered "yes" are: Bott, Branch, Burns, Davies, Dickinson, Foster, Grigsby, Holmes, A. Hoare, Jackson, Lawson, Lidgett, Lord Monkswell, Martineau, McDougall, Osborn, Roberts, Robinson, Raphael, Samuel, Saunders, Lady Sandhurst, Sly, Smith, Tarling, Thornton, Tims, Torrance, Verney, Williams, Wren.

Those who would "have no objection" are: Frye, Haggis, Marsland, Sinclair.

The ambiguous answers were given by: Harben, Hubbard, E. Jones, Lloyd.

The names of those who said "no," or gave answers equivalent thereto, are: Acworth, Ambrose, Austin, Bullivant, Cohen, Carr-Gomm, Hughes, J. Jones, Lemon, Lowles, Marks, Rhodes, Westacott.

Aldermen: From Outside or Inside?

2. "Are you in favour of electing aldermen (*a*) solely from outside, (*b*) solely from amongst the elected members of the Council, or (*c*) in what proportions from both classes?"

Solely from outside, 16; *mainly from outside*, 3; *solely from inside*, 4; *mainly from inside*, 2; *from both classes*, 9; "*the best men possible, no matter how*," 9; *ambiguous answers*, 4; "*wobblers*," 3.

The out-and-out "outsiders" are: Ambrose, Branch, Dickinson, Holmes, A. Hoare, Hubbard, Jackson, E. Jones, Lawson, Lidgett, Martineau, Rhodes, Sly, Smith, Tarling, Tims.

The three members who are in favour of taking the aldermen "mainly from the outside" are Carr-Gomm, Lady Sandhurst, and Verney.

The "solely from inside" men are J. Jones, Lowles, Raphael ("except for *very* strong reasons"), and Westacott; whilst Bott and Osborn are in favour of "mainly from inside."

Those who favour election from both classes are: E. Austin, Bullivant (two-thirds from inside, one-third from outside), Cohen, Grigsby, Harben, Hughes, Lloyd (half-and-half), Robinson (half-and-half), Samuel (half-and-half).

Nine members favour "electing the best men, no matter where they come from." These are: Acworth, Burns, Foster, Frye, Lemon, Marks, McDougall, Lord Monkswell, and Williams.

Ambiguous answers were received from Davies, Roberts, Saunders, and Wren; while Haggis, Thornton, and Torrance "wobble.

Is Defeat at the Polls a Disqualification?

Q. "Do you regard it as an absolute disqualification for the office of alderman that a candidate has been defeated in a London division?"

"*Yes*," sans phrase, 4; "*Yes*," *with slight qualifications*, 5; "*No*," sans phrase, 34; "*No*," *with slight qualifications*, 5; *ambiguous*, 1.

The four irreconcileable democrats are Bullivant, J. Jones, Raphael, and Westacott.

The five who are for bowing to the popular decision except in very special cases are: Bott, Davies, Harben, Lowles, and Marks.

Those who show considerable respect for the popular decision are:—E. Austin ("not an absolute disqualification, but should be exceptional"), Grigsby (ditto), Dickinson ("not absolute, but very serious"), Hubbard ("not absolute, but I should think twice, &c."), Lord Monkswell ("not a disqualification, but a very serious objection"). Mr. Thornton's answer is ambiguous.

Those finally who do not regard defeat at the polls as any disqualification for subsequent election are: Acworth, Ambrose, Branch, Burns, Carr-Gomm, Cohen, Foster, Frye, A. Hoare, Haggis, Hughes, Holmes, Jackson, E. Jones, Lawson, Lemon, Lidgett, Martineau, McFarlane, McDougali, Rhodes, Roberts, Robinson, Samuel, Lady Sandhurst, Saunders, Sinclair, Sly, Smith, Tarling, Torrance, Tims, Verney, Williams.

Occasional Notes.

It is announced that Lord Salisbury came to town yesterday and had a long interview with Count Hatzfeldt at the Foreign Office. It is probable that the interview related to Samoa. Lord Salisbury must have had something to say, if only by way of protesting against the inaccuracy, at the worst, or indiscretion at the best, of Prince Bismarck's declaration that we are acting together with Germany, in Samoa as in Zanzibar. So far from this being the case, it appears that the British Consul in the island has allied himself with the American Consul in protesting against the action of the Germans and Prince Bismarck has already capitulated to the American protest. He is of opinion that his military representative has already "gone too far" in placing foreigners under martial law, and in undertaking the administration of the island. It is evident that the Americans intend to stand no nonsense in Samoa; and it is well that Prince Bismarck should understand that in this matter our interests are identical with those of America rather than those of Germany.

Official statements, said Prince Bismarck once in the Reichstag, never lie. The conduct of the Austrian officials with regard to the Crown Prince's death has given the lie pretty effectively to Prince Bismarck's generalization. On Thursday a lie was officially promulgated, and the *Neue Freie Presse* was suppressed for hinting at the truth. On Friday the official Gazette had itself to publish what it suppressed the day before. Had Prince Bismarck said, "Official statements should never lie," the present affair would have furnished strong corroboration. For there is this fatal objection to telling a palpable lie, that no one believes you when you speak the truth. Thus, in this case the net result of the ill-advised lying of the officials is—as the correspondents of the *Times* and *Daily Chronicle* point out—that no one believes even in the suicide story—which nevertheless is, we believe perfectly true—and that rumours of murder are universally prevalent.

The one pleasant feature in the whole of this melancholy affair is the firm attitude of the doctors in refusing to put their names to the official lie. It is easy to imagine the tremendous pressure that must have been put upon them and the strong temptation they were under to submit to it. It is creditable alike to themselves and to their profession that they rose superior to such temptation. They have thereby rendered a service no less to the interests of morality than to those of historical truth.

Mr. O'Brien is still sitting in his shirt in his cell, but as he is wrapped in a quilt he may not qualify for the hospital so soon as would have been the case had the authorities persisted in refusing him his bedclothes during the day. Mr. Balfour is of opinion that if the struggle against the prison garb cost him his life his life could not be lost in a better way. Mr. Balfour is guilty of weakness in allowing the prisoner the quilt. On his own principles he ought to leave Mr. O'Brien shivering in his shirt until cold and exposure brought him into the hospital. Then, of course, prison regulations would justify the adoption of a more human treatment of the Irish leader. It is a deplorable incident, but one which is thoroughly characteristic on both sides.

It would seem that the moderates of the London County Council are moderate in fact as well as in words. At the *pourparlers* held yesterday between the two parties it was agreed that the moderates should elect seven out of nineteen aldermen. A rule of three will show that the number they were entitled to nominate was nearer eight than seven. By waiving their rights to the odd man they have shown a praiseworthy desire to conciliate opposition. As Mr. Firth was party to the arrangement we may presume that it will be carried out despite the wrath of the Rump—which now more than ever will feel betrayed by its chief.

Whether Mr. Firth will be able to reassert his control over his own party is doubtful. The wrath excited against him by his desertion on Thursday of the cause which he was expected to lead to an assured triumph is very inadequately realized by those outside the Council. The majority for the adjournment would have been far larger had not several members of the progressives voted with the minority merely to give vent to their sentiment of indignation at what they considered the ratting of their chief. Mr. Firth's conduct in regard to Sir Charles Dilke has also given rise to grave searchings of heart, and it is already frankly admitted that if the election for offices were by ballot, Mr. Firth's chance for the chair, vice-chair, and deputy-chair would be about as small as it is for the woolsack.

The Metropolitan Board of Works has a fairly good record to make of its activity since it came into existence, and its efforts will be much better appreciated twelve months since than they are to-day. As they say yesterday in their valedictory report: "There has hitherto been no evidence that corruption or malpractice has affected or marred the greater part of the work which it has accomplished." This being the case, and the value of experience of its by-laws and principles of action being absolutely indispensable, it is not surprising that the feeling is gaining ground that Mr. Henry Harben, the representative of the administrative efficiency of the Board of Works, should be elected to the vice-chair of the County Council. It would be difficult to find a better man.

It would seem that at last there is a probability of daylight being let in on Mr. Gladstone's extraordinary letter to the Marquis de Riso concerning the position of the Pope. The text of the letter has now been communicated to the *Riforma*, and according to a Reuter's telegram it speaks in favour of international arbitration as a general principle, but not in relation to the position of the Pope. If so, the Marquis de Riso has much misrepresented Mr. Gladstone's words, but we prefer for the present to abide by the Marquis de Riso's version, for it is preposterous to say that a general reference to international arbitration in a letter called forth by a distinct complaint concerning the hardships of the position of the Pope had no relation to the Papal grievances. We shall, however, not have long to wait before the letter arrives in London.

The long-continued struggle against Count Tolstoi's reactionary measure, which is reported under the extraordinarily misleading heading of "Reforms in Russia," continues unabated in the Council of the Empire. The three Grand Dukes Michael, Vladimir, and Alexis, together with Count Worontzoff Daschkoff, voted against the scheme, which was thrown out by a majority of 3 to 1, 39 voting on one side and 13 on the other. That is all very well as far as it goes, but seeing that M. Pobedonostzeff and most of the Ministers were in a minority, the Emperor could hardly accept the decision of the majority unless he were prepared at the same time to dispense with the services of the Ministerial Committee through whom he has acted for the last few years.

There are sore complaints on the part of the canvassers in the County Council elections as to the villainous state of the municipal register. In Stepney, for instance, only 5,000 out of 6,500 on the register were found to be genuine voters. Some had not lived in the constituency for seventeen years! In Walworth, again, there were 1,400 duly qualified voters who were not on the register at all, and whom it cost one of the contending parties as much as £70 to have registered. Surely these expenses ought properly to be defrayed by the community. To simplify registration and make it entirely independent of party is one of the most pressing reforms of the day.

Of course it is easy to see why the London municipal register is in a bad condition. It is only part and parcel of that general policy of contempt for the municipal rights of Londoners which we have not even yet seen the last of, and in which hitherto none have concurred so heartily as Londoners themselves. Except for the school board elections, the London municipal register has really never been properly used before the elections to this Council; for the public-house cliques that elect vestries need scarcely be taken into account. What need to trouble about the registration of voters when direct voting was scarcely known? But "we have changed all that;" so now the sooner the register is thoroughly overhauled the better for all concerned.

As treasurer of Mrs. Watts Hughes's Home for Destitute Boys, Mrs. Augustine Birrell deserves great credit for the invention of a new method of opening the purse-strings of the sluggishly benevolent. Having persuaded her husband to deliver a lecture on "Edward Gibbon" at the Westminster Town Hall last night, and Mr. John Morley to take the chair on the occasion, she, in conjunction with a committee of ladies, was able to collect there an audience of some six or seven hundred persons whose crowns and half-crowns, over and above the advertisement, must form a solid contribution to the funds of an interesting institution. As the lecturer remarked in returning thanks for a well-deserved eulogy by the chairman, "If you have been bored you may at least remember that I might have been a bazaar." It is fair to say, however, that the audience were not bored at all. The lecture was full of sprightly remarks, and serious without being too solid; and it elicited from the usually unimpassioned chairman the remark that it was "the best piece of literary criticism which he had ever either heard *or read*." The lecturer's manner is perhaps not quite equal to his matter, and from the far end of the hall he was a little difficult to follow; indeed, both chairman and lecturer might reasonably envy the silvery tones in which Lord Coleridge subsequently proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Morley, and exhibited to the younger men around him the charm of finished elocution. It is to be hoped that Mrs. Birrell's example will be imitated, where imitation is possible, to the diminution of charity bazaars and dinners, and "similar obnoxious forms of human activity."

CONCERTINA VERSUS BANJO.

An Interview with Signor Alsepti.

The banjo is just now having such a boom among the large part of the public which, while very fond of music, has not the perseverance to undergo a long course of musical training, that it seems difficult for any other minor instrument to gain public favour while the present craze lasts. But there *is* another instrument, smaller than the banjo, and as much despised as, not very long ago, was the favourite of the minstrels, which is gradually, though very slowly in this country, gaining a deserved prestige. This is the concertina, and the man who has taken up the cause of the Cinderella among instruments is a blind Italian, Signor Alsepti, whose name is very well known in several large provincial towns in the north, where he has often played in public and been a teacher of the concertina for many years. Signor Alsepti is now in London, where he has entered upon an engagement with the well-known firm of Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co. to give lessons or concerts on the concertina, the firm having introduced a number of important improvements of the instrument, suggested by the clever Italian. Signor Alsepti is *the* master of the English concertina *par excellence*, on whom has fallen the mantle of his late master, Giulio Regondi, and his views on matters connected with his instrument will therefore be found interesting. Our representative, who had a chat with the blind maestro, to whom an introduction was procured by the kindness of Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co., writes :—

It was a long way up to the little room where Signor Alsepti received me, and the whole place was literally crowded with all imaginable musical instruments. Through the glass doors on one floor I looked into rooms filled with the elephantine forms of grand pianos ; on another I noticed, heaped up in a corner, some scores of brand-new banjos ; cases containing instruments of every size and shape stood about, and it seemed as if the sound of vibrating chords filled the place at every footstep. The room into which I was shown to see the maestro was apparently some kind of a penitentiary, for ranged along one wall stood five tall harps, most of which appeared to be doing penance in sackcloth, if not in ashes. Several pianos, each of which seemed to say by its appearance that it had seen better days, filled up most of the space, and the corners were rounded off by some large globes. On one of the pianos stood a small black octagonal case, and towards it Signor Alsepti groped his way after he had welcomed me in English without the slightest foreign accent. As he sat down opposite to me he took from the case what seemed to me one of the instruments of torture popularly called concertina, and which usually take their revenge for being tortured by incompetent hands by filling the ears of their audience with a noise as of caterwaulings exceeding fierce.

"How is it, Signor Alsepti," I asked by way of opening the conversation, "that by most people it is considered *infra dig.* to play the concertina ?"

"Prejudice, nothing but prejudice, which, however, is not quite undeserved. What most people imagine to be a concertina is nothing of the kind, but simply a double accordion, and even then it is in most cases one of those cheap foreign things which are capable only of reproducing a very limited number of sounds."

"Then I suppose you agree with me that the music of what is usually called the concertina is not like the music of the spheres ?" "I should say it is not. It is vile, altogether vile, and it is responsible for the disrepute into which the concertina has been brought. But listen to this, and then tell me whether it is not possible to produce real music on the concertina." The slender fingers were in a second busy among the little steel stops : the blind eyes, hidden by dark spectacles, seemed to look down upon the instrument, the feet began lightly to beat time, as the man in the clerical garb (for Signor Alsepti belongs to the order of the Franciscan Brothers, though, as he says, he lives in the world) played a part of Beethoven's magnetic and magnificent Sonata in B flat, as I had never heard it played before. "You see that there is music in it, and with its present improvements I know of no instrument that could equal it, except the violin, which is, and always will be, the king of musical instruments. I sometimes think I hear the very words articulated. Just listen. Does it not almost pronounce the words in this air (playing), 'Thou wilt not leave my soul in hell' ? And as it is excellent for classical and sacred music, so also dance music, songs, and, in fact, all popular music without exception, suits the concertina. Here is a waltz (playing an air full of life and laughter), and here is an Irish song." Again he changed his tune, and the French air of "La Suisse au bord du lac," which Dr. Faber has so effectively introduced into the hymn "The Pilgrims of the Night," floated softly through the room. "You see," he continued, "what a power of expression it has. But this has only been brought about by recent improvements. Here, for instance, are the two bowing valves which I have introduced, and before the application of which it was not possible to reproduce any music exactly as it is written. Then you notice that the tops of the instrument are slightly raised ; that is another important innovation, and there are many others which are not apparent to any but a connoisseur of the instrument, but all of which have been adopted to give the instrument its rightful place. The improved concertina is more like the violin than any other instrument, and it is just because it resembles the human voice so closely that I love it so."

"Then, do you propose substituting the concertina for the violin ?"

"No, no, not on any account, but I want it, first of all, to be recognized on its own merits as an instrument capable of producing very beautiful music, and then I should like to see it used in orchestras to strengthen the violins. My ordinary concertina would do splendidly with the first violin : the baritone concertina would do with the second violins—and, in fact, the various concertinas would be able to accompany any instrument in the orchestra. With the piano as a substitute for the violin, it is simply charming."

"But why have a substitute for the violin, since the violin itself is not so very expensive or bulky an instrument ?"

"Because it is infinitely more easy to learn to play the concertina than the violin. You know what a long and careful course of training it requires to become an efficient violinist, whereas a course of twelve lessons on the concertina enables a pupil of average capability to pursue his studies without a master. There are a great many people who begin to take violin lessons, but who, after a short time, become discouraged by the great and many difficulties which oppose them at every turn. Now, these are exactly the people who could easily learn to play the concertina, and play it on every occasion where otherwise the violin would come in."

"And what is the exact price of one of the English concertinas such as you recommend them ?"

"The price varies. You can get an instrument with all the improvements at 2 guineas, but the prices run up to £25. My own is an 18-guinea instrument." Once again the enthusiastic Italian, who brims over with cheerfulness and simple good nature, took up the instrument which is his *lux in tenebris*, and as I rose to go the Kreuzer Sonata resounded through the house, played in a manner which made me almost fancy that I was listening to Mdme. Néruda at the St. James's Hall.

"Before I go," I asked, after the instrument had been safely returned to its case, "will you tell me, Signor Alsepti, whether you have found the English to be a musical nation ?"

"Not to any great extent. But they are far more appreciative now than they used to be years ago, and in the northern provinces they are very fond of music. In one town, at least, this is due to the endeavours of one single man—namely, at Manchester, which has become a musical city through the excellent concerts which Sir Charles Hallé has always given there."

HOW THEY SUPPRESS DUELLING IN GERMANY.

Eichler, the student who killed his adversary, Blum, in a pistol duel in the Grunewald, near Berlin, has just been condemned to two years' detention in a fortress. Eichler was, it will be remembered, the challenger, and the insult was a protest made by Blum against the anti-Semitic tendencies of one of the students' clubs.

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

TWO POETS.*

In literature there are two things needful, or rather there is one thing needful, and another thing highly desirable. It is highly desirable that the writer should have something to say : it is absolutely essential that he should know how to say it. The author of "Smith : a Tragedy" possesses this essential gift. He has as yet nothing on earth to say, but if ever he should find anything worth saying he will probably make people listen to him. We gather from his title page that this is not his first work, but we know nothing of its predecessor "Bruce : a Drama." The eccentrically named "Smith" is a poem in dialogue, consisting of some 750 blank verse lines. In matter, it is as empty a fantasy as ever flitted through a storm-and-stressful brain, but its expression is throughout vivid and vigorous, witty occasionally, and always inspired by a luxuriant, if somewhat unchastened, imagination. Mr. Davidson has evidently read his Browning to some purpose, and is determined, like that strenuous rhetorician, to vitalize his style at all hazards. Where a luminous image does not present itself a flickering conceit must do instead ; for example—

> No antique, gnarled and wrinkled, round-wood porch,
> Whiskered with hollyhocks in this old thorpe
> Has ever felt the razor of the East.

If Mr. Davidson is ever to do himself justice as a writer, he must unlearn the trick of these whimsicalities. How much better is this !—

> Fame is the breath of power :
> What valid work was ever for itself
> Wrought solely, be it war, art, statesmanship?
> Nothing can be its own reward and hold
> Rank above patience, or whatever game,
> Angling or avarice, is selfisher.
> Give me to dream dreams all would love to dream ;
> To tell the world's truth ; hear the world tramp time
> With satin slippers and with hob-nailed shoes
> To my true singing ; fame is worth its cost,
> Blood-sweats, and tears, and haggard, homeless lives.

Mr. Davidson's description of London as "The running sore, the ringworm of the earth" should gladden the heart of Mr. William Morris, and his sarcasm upon "these reeling times of tail-wagged dogs" might form the text of a Socialist lecture. How Browningesque is this !—

> One must become
> Fanatic—be a wedge—a thunderbolt,
> To smite a passage through the close-grained world ;

and this touch of irony :—

> You know I have not always strength of wing
> To soar like you right to God's point of view.

Here, again, is a passage which surely justifies us in placing wit among Mr. Davidson's qualities :—

> Intolerance in religion never dreamt
> Such fell machinery of Acts and Codes
> As now we use for nipping thought in bud,
> And turning children out like nine-pins, each
> As doleful and as wooden.

The simile is too obvious, perhaps, to satisfy the critic who has lately been proclaiming Mr. George Meredith the wittiest writer in English literature ; but we cannot hold that similes, like coal, grow more valuable the deeper you dig for them.

There is an excellent idea in Mr. Eugene Lee-Hamilton's "Imaginary Sonnets," for which "Dramatic Sonnets" would have been a fitter title. Each poem embodies some moment of passion, reflection, doubt, or despair in the life of an historical or legendary personage. For example, we have "Henry I. to the Sea," "Tannhäuser to Venus," "Farinata degli Ulberti to Conquered Florence," "Columbus to his Fetters," "Luther to a Bluebottle Fly," "Lycidas to Milton," "Captain Kidd to his Buried Gold," "Louis XVI. to Charles I.," and so forth. There are a hundred sonnets in all, and in so long an array there must necessarily be inequalities. As a rule, however, Mr. Lee-Hamilton seizes with fine sympathy the pathos, the irony, or the picturesqueness of the situations with which he deals. His matter is better than his manner. In almost every sonnet we come across inert, inorganic phrases, or else lines which are meaning-crammed at the expense of melody. "Charles Edward to his Last Friend" exemplifies these faults (the fifth line is really intolerable) while at the same time it affords a fair instance of Mr. Lee-Hamilton's skill in compressing a whole drama into the strict limits of his chosen form.

> Thou bottle, thou last comrade that is worth
> My love, thou sole Prime Minister I have,
> Thou art the last adherent who can save
> Thy master still some woe in his heart's dearth.
> The table thou art on is my realm's girth,
> Instead of that broad England which God gave ;
> And with thy help I shuffle to the grave,
> Besotten, gouty, left by all on earth.
> Hark, hark ! I hear above the trees that sigh
> A sound of Highland music wild and sweet,
> Like gusts from Falkirk, gusts of victory !
> My heart contracts and doubles in its beat ;
> I shiver in the sun I know not why :
> 'Twas but the Roman pipers in the street.

Less faulty in technical respects and equally dramatic is "The Duke of Milan to Shadows and Sounds :"—

> Who wraps me in a clammy cloak of fear?
> The air seems full of throttling hands that float
> Invisible, and play about my throat,
> While unseen daggers tickle, ever near.
> Shade teems with eyes, while close to me I hear
> A constant stealthy step : and spite the coat
> Of mail beneath my shirt, spite walls and moat,
> I quail as every rustle meets my ear.
> O thrice curst need of food ! I force my teeth
> To chew, my throat to swallow. Is there not
> In every dish the tasteless spice of death?
> Spare me, ye shapes, that crouch in each dark spot ;
> Move not, ye curtains, with the summer's breath ;
> Your ceaseless rustlings make my life blood clot.

If space permitted, we should like to quote "Zara to his Love," "Ponce de Leon to the Fountain of Youth," "Luca Signorelli to his Son" and many others, in which beauty of idea is coupled with vigour of expression. Whatever Mr. Lee-Hamilton's faults, he has the great merit of knowing what he means to say and saying it. He belongs neither to the nebulous nor to the super-subtle faction. His little book, by the way, might be used in schools in lieu of a "general knowledge" examination-paper. The request to "state what you know about the personages mentioned in Mr. Lee-Hamilton's 'Imaginary Sonnets'" might well put even Macaulay's schoolboy on his mettle. We could name one Reviewer who would make but a poor percentage. As the author of "The Compleat Angler" is one of Mr. Lee-Hamilton's heroes, there would be a chance for the legendary young gentleman who holds that "Izaak Walton, on account of his skill in fishing, was commonly called the Judicious Hooker."

* "Smith : a Tragedy." By John Davidson. (Glasgow : F. W. Wilson and Brother. 1888.)
"Imaginary Sonnets." By Eugene Lee-Hamilton. (London : Elliot Stock. 1888.

Sir Morell Mackenzie writes about the Soden Mineral Pastilles :—"I regard them as extremely valuable in obstinate Catarrhal Affections of the Throat. They are especially beneficial to Catarrhal Diseases of the Air Passages. I frequently found them of great service in the case of singers and public speakers." Acknowledged by the Medical Profession the best remedy for Throat Irritation, Coughs, Bronchitis, and Asthma. Of all Chemists, 1s. 1½d., or 13 stamps, from 10, Dyer's-buildings, Holborn, E.C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LORD COLERIDGE AND HIS PREDECESSORS.

To the Editor *of the* Pall Mall Gazette.

Sir,—Those to whom the judicial reputation of Lord Ellenborough is dear can afford to despise attacks upon it from a "Bachelor of Laws," who confuses in his legal mind the trials of Horne Tooke and Hone. They will prefer the great and unbiassed authority of Lord Brougham in such matters, who wrote of the Chief Justice as follows :—"That he ever upon any occasion knowingly deviated one hair's breadth from justice in the discharge of his office is wholly untrue."—Your obedient servant,

A. L.

January 29.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PARIS.

To the Editor *of the* Pall Mall Gazette.

Sir,—I have to thank your correspondent, Mr. George H. Faber, for providing me with two additional arguments in favour of our Socialist comrades in Paris. 1. The Social-Democratic members of the Municipal Council have always vigorously opposed any increase of the debt, which was incurred by representatives of the bourgeoisie under the Empire and under the Republic in its early days. They have already exposed and checked the corruption and swindling of similar members on the present Council. 2. If State and municipal expenditure "is sapping the foundations of French national prosperity," that, again, is no fault of the Social Democrats. They are never weary of protesting against the silly foreign expeditions and costly home Chauvinism which cripple the resources of France by extravagant military and naval expenditure. Nor do they fail to raise their voices against the whole crew of loanmongers, who, to fill their own pockets, encourage waste and borrowing in municipal affairs. If Socialists were in a majority, instead of being, as at the present time, an active and growing minority, they would soon stop all this robbery and jobbery. Meanwhile, they advocate expenditure on what will tend to give health, strength, and sound education to the producing classes, this being the most profitable and beneficial expenditure possible for the whole community.—Yours faithfully,

H. M. Hyndman.

January 25.

IMPRESSIONISM—TRUE AND FALSE.

To the Editor *of the* Pall Mall Gazette.

Sir,—"*Je suis luministe*," says the impressionist artist in "*La Cigale*," the original of the Gaiety "Grasshopper." "*Si je ferais votre portrait je vous ferais probablement violet.*" To paint in violet and green spots is popularly supposed to be the note of the French impressionism, or as it is now the fashion to call its latest development in Paris, "le vibrisme." With us "impressionism" probably conveys to most people the idea of very large crop of funny frames containing very small pictures which you can't make out. And just as the visitor to the Exhibition of the "Société des Impressionistes" in Paris may well be pardoned if he overlooks, in the crowd of prismatic mannerism, the calm and unobtrusive presence of works by the greatest draughtsman since the time of Holbein, so do we here run a risk of losing sight of the master in the crowd of his noisy mimics. For to English ears the word "Impressionist" calls up associations of one name, and one name alone, and, strangely enough, that of a painter who has always repudiated with emphasis its application to him or his work. And he has done wisely if he is to be made responsible for all the sorry brood of callow art-product that would take refuge under the "citron wing" of the butterfly. And yet this plague of "Whistler for the million" may have been sent to the master as a salutary chastening in some things. He has allowed his work, essentially and invariably serious, and with qualities inimitable, to be presented in certain quaint garbs, and accompanied by certain external flourishes that could easily be imitated, and he has invited rather than discouraged the familiarity with it of a joyous five o'clock tea throng, whom the carpet and the crush of the exhibition room "passioned," and who would hardly notice the substitution on the walls of something cheaper, in queerer frames, for his "Notes, Harmonies, Nocturnes." He has been too lavish of his good things, and while the student and the specialist basked gratefully in the generous rays, the public that he had called in with the big drum forgot before a "hint in apple-green," which merely puzzled them, the painter of Carlyle and Sarasate. They thought that perhaps the point of the show consisted in the number of works executed in a given time. They did not know that if speed, as such, were a quality in art, the picture factories that avail themselves of the judicious help of a detective camera can leave Velasquez miles behind. No, he has mistaken his audience. His audience is an entirely serious one. They know every stroke of his brush, and every scratch of his needle, and they neither need to be gathered in by any advertisement, nor will consent to be misled even by himself. And for a work like the portrait of the painter's mother, or a monument of colour decoration like the "Peacock room," or, more wonderful perhaps than either, for such triumphs of selection and summary expression in pure line as his latest etchings, they will refuse to accept as any sort of substitute the burlesques of disciple or follower, authorized or unauthorized, whether he superfluously confess his obvious obligations or, droller still, gravely repudiate them.—I am &c.,

W. S.

January 30.

A CHANCE FOR CHRISTIAN CARPENTERS.

"Nothing is more curious in India," writes Mr. Caine, M.P., "than to pass from a workshop where the most perfect and artistic results are being produced to another whose jerrymen and inefficiency has no rival in the world. The carpentry of India is beneath contempt, and so is the cabinet work. If missionaries, instead of providing costly high-school teaching for young Hindoos, turning out ten candidates for every position in life for which their education fits them, would add to their staff a few Christian joiners from England, or, better still, from Japan, and start technical schools for carpentry, they would confer a real benefit on India, and do much more real and lasting good to the missionary cause."

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

(Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review, should such seem to be necessary.)

History.

Rawlinson, Prof. George, M.A. "Phœnicia." (T. Fisher Unwin.)
[A popular history in one volume ; forming the latest addition to the "Story of the Nations" Series. Pp. xvii., 356, cloth. Map and illustrations. Price 5s.]

Fiction.

Besant, Walter. "For Faith and Freedom." (Chatto and Windus.)
[A novel in three volumes. Illustrated by A. Forestier and F. Waddy. Price 31s. 6d.]
Kingsley, Charles. "Two Years Ago." (Macmillan and Co.)
[The fifth volume of a cheap edition of Kingsley's works. Price 3s. 6d.]
Sergeant, Adeline. "Esther Denison." (Bentley and Son.)
[A novel in three volumes. Price 31s. 6d.]
Stuart, Esmé. "One for the other." (Ward and Downey.)
[Stories of French life. Three vols.]
Tolstoi, Count Lyof N. "The Invaders." (Walter Scott.)
[An authorized translation. Pp. 343. Price 2s. 6d.]
Yonge, Charlotte M. "The Young Stepmother." (Macmillan and Co.)
[A volume of the cheap edition. Pp. 430, cloth, illustrations. Price 3s. 6d.]

Books of Reference.

Burke, Sir Bernard, C.B. "A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Peerage and Baronetage." (Harrison and Sons, 59, Pall Mall.)
[The fifty-first edition. Pp. cxxxvi., 1,736. Cloth, gilt top.]
"Debrett's Peerage, Baronetage, Knightage, and Companionage." (Dean and Son, 160A, Fleet-street.)
[176th year of publication. Pp. xxiv., 824.]
"Every Man's Own Lawyer." (Crosby Lockwood and Son.)
[A handy book of the principles of law and equity. Revised and enlarged so as to include the legislation of the two Sessions of 1888. Pp. xvi., 672, cloth. Price 6s. 8d.]
"Street's Indian and Colonial Mercantile Directory, 1888-9." (Street and Co., 30, Cornhill, E.C.)
[The twelfth issue. Price 25s.]

CADBURY'S COCOA is absolutely pure and untampered with. It has stood the keenest analytical tests, and consists solely of the concentrated essence of the Cocoa bean, the flavour being developed and the aroma improved by a special process of roasting.

NOTICES.

Announcements of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, *and* DEATHS *are inserted for 5s. each. The* PALL MALL GAZETTE *is sent post free for any number of days to any address in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and all countries in the Postal Union, at the rate of ninepence per week, or 9s. 9d. per quarter. The* PALL MALL BUDGET, *also post free, costs for the United Kingdom 4s. 11d. per quarter; for all countries in the Postal Union 5s. 5d. per quarter; for India and China 6s. per quarter. Apply to the Manager,* PALL MALL GAZETTE, 2, NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL COVENT GARDEN.
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Prices of Admission:—Gallery, 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.; Pit and Promenade, 2s.; Stage Stalls, 3s.; First Circle, 3s.; Grand Circle, 4s.; Stalls, 5s.; Boxes from 10s. 6d. to £3 3s. Early doors open at One o'clock and 6.30 (entrance, Hart-street) to Pit and Promenade, Amphitheatre and Gallery, 6d. Extra. Box-office open daily, from 10 till 5, under the direction of Mr. E. Hall. No charge for booking. Acting Manager and Treasurer, Mr. WALTER GOOCH. Mr. GEORGE CLEMMENTS, Musical Director. Theatre brilliantly illuminated by the Wenham Gas Lamp Company with Clusters and Standard Wenham Gas Electroliers.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—CHILDREN HALF-PRICE to MORNING and EVENING PERFORMANCES to all parts of the House (except Gallery) on payment at the doors, or seats can be secured in advance at the Box-office and all Libraries.

TO-NIGHT, and at EVERY PERFORMANCE, the BALDWIN PONY'S DESCENT with the PARACHUTE at HENGLER'S.

PARACHUTE DESCENT by the BALDWIN PONY at HENGLER'S, COVENT GARDEN, TO-NIGHT, and at EVERY PERFORMANCE.

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MONDAY EVENING NEXT, first appearance of Miss JENNIE O'BRIEN, Mr. Geo. Gilbert, J. Fratelli Signotti, Comical Cattle, and Little Le Barr, in addition to the already great Company.—HENGLER'S CIRCUS, THEATRE ROYAL COVENT GARDEN.

COMEDY THEATRE.—TO-NIGHT, at 9 o'clock, a New Farcical Comedy, in three acts, entitled UNCLES AND AUNTS, by W. LESTOCQ and WALTER EVERARD. Mr. W. S. Penley, and special cast. Preceded, at 8, by FENNEL, by J. K. JEROME.—Business Manager, Mr. E. F. BRADLEY.

"PICKWICK," Dramatic Cantata, written by F. C. BURNAND and composed by EDWARD SOLOMON. Characters by Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Rutland Barrington, and Miss Lottie Venne. Matinées commencing Feb. 4, at 3.—COMEDY THEATRE.

UNCLES AND AUNTS.—MATINEE TO-DAY (Saturday), at 3 o'clock. COMEDY THEATRE.

CRYSTAL PALACE PANTOMIME.—50th Performance To-day.—The PANTOMIME for GENUINE FUN and GORGEOUS SPECTACLE. Produced under direction of OSCAR BARRETT. TWICE TO-DAY, at 3 and 7.30. Seats from 1s.

STANLEY SHOW, CRYSTAL PALACE. Open to-day from 10 to 10. LAST DAY. The largest show of BICYCLES and TRICYCLES ever held. Over 1,000 machines on view. ONE SHILLING DAY. NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR SHOW.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PICTURE of the GREAT FALLS, original effects, by PHILIPPOTEAUX. Pleasant Lounge, Music, American Sweetmeat Store. Electric Light. Refreshments by Beguinot. Admission 1s. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station.

ART GALLERIES.

McLEAN'S GALLERY.—PICTURES and SKETCHES at HOME and ABROAD by JAMES WEBB. A choice selection of cabinet works.—T. McLEAN'S GALLERY, 7, Haymarket.

ROYAL HOUSE OF STUART.—EXHIBITION of PORTRAITS, MINIATURES, and PERSONAL RELICS connected with the ROYAL HOUSE of STUART. Under the Patronage of her Majesty the Queen.—Open daily from 10 till 7. Admission 1s. Season Tickets 5s.—NEW GALLERY, REGENT-STREET.

HOTEL LIST.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THE HIGHCLIFFE HOTEL, of world-wide reputation for comfort. Full south. Magnificent Sea Views. Table d'hote. JOHN KILNER, Proprietor.

Saturday and Sunday.

SATURDAY.

"America and the Americans," by Mr. Max O'Rell, Polytechnic, Y.M.C.A.
Popular Oratorio Concerts—"The Last Judgment" and "Creation," Great Assembly Hall, Mile-end, 7.30.
"The Coming of the Friars," by Rev. Professor Mandell Creighton, Toynbee Hall, 8.
Companies' Meetings.—Salt Union, Cannon-street Hotel, 12: Herners, Guildhall Tavern, 6.30.
Steeplechasing.—Kempton Park.
Mr. Walter Crane on "Design," Working Men's College, Great Ormond-street, 8.30.
London Scottish Rifles—Presentation of Prizes, James-street, Buckingham-gate, 8.
"The Character of Great Composers," by Professor Pauer, Royal Institution, 3.
Mr. R. M. Crompton's Subscription Cinderella Dance, Portman Rooms, 7.30.
Football Matches.—Wormwood Scrubs, West London v. Shrewsbrook; East Molesey, East Molesey v. Dulwich; Walthamstow, Clapton v. Cambridge University; Blackheath, Croydon v. Blackheath; Barnet, Barnet v. Hampstead; Blackheath, Blackheath v. Kent Rovers; Blackheath, Veterinary College v. Eaton Rovers; Chiselhurst, West Kent v. Old Wykehamists; Cooper's Hill, R.I.E.C. v. Old Cheltonians; Dulwich, Lennox v. Sutton; Finchley, Hampstead v. West End; Finsbury, H.A.C. v. North Kent; Highgate, Highgate School v. Clapham Rovers: Isleworth, Old Internationals v. Clapham Rovers; Kennington Oval, Swifts v. Wrexham (Cup Tie); Leyton, Clapton v. Clapton; Richmond, Richmond v. Harlequins; Surbiton, Lancing Old Boys v. Old Etonians; Upper Tooting, Casuals v. Old Westminsters; Wanstead, Wanstead v. Forest School; Willesden, Prairie Rangers v. Cavendish; Windsor, St. Mark's School v. Phocians; Wormwood Scrubbs, St. Mary's Hospital v. Sydenham.
Hunting Appointments: East Essex, Boreham House, 11; Essex Union, Little Burstead, 11; Hertfordshire, Kensworth House, 11; West Kent, Heverham, 11.

SUNDAY PREACHERS.

St. Paul's Cathedral—Rev. Prebendary Barker, 10.30; Rev. Archdeacon Gifford, 3.15; Rev. Canon Furse, 7.
Westminster Abbey—Rev. Dr. Troutbeck, 10; Rev. Archdeacon Farrar (the New Life in Religion), 3.
Chapel Royal, Savoy—Rev. W. P. Pearce, 11.30; Rev. J. H. Cheadle, 7.
Chapel Royal, St. James's—Rev. the Sub-Dean, 12.
Chapel Royal, Whitehall—Rev. S. P. Barnett, 11; Rev. W. G. Green, 3.30.
Lincoln's Inn Chapel—Rev. Canon Kirkpatrick (Warburton Lecturer), 11; Rev. C. J. Ball, 3.
Gray's Inn Chapel—Rev. W. Stokoe, 11.30.
Rolls Chapel, Chancery-lane—Rev. John Congreve, 11.
St. Margaret's, Westminster—Archdeacon Farrar, 11; Rev. E. G. Gordon, 7.
Pro-Cathedral, Kensington—Morning (12), the Rev. Monsignor Moore; evening (7), the Rev. M. Fanning.
East London Tabernacle, Burdett-road, E.—Rev. Archibald G. Brown, 11 and 6.30.
Metropolitan Tabernacle, Newington, S.E.—Rev Dr. Sinclair Paterson, 11; Rev. J. W. Harrald, 6.30.
Regent's Park Chapel, Park-square East—Rev. F. B. Meyer, B.A., 11 and 7.
Stockwell, South Lambeth-road—Rev. Arthur Mursell, 11 and 6.30.
Brixton Congregational—Rev. J. F. Stevenson, D.D., LL.B., 11 and 6.30.
Christ Church, Westminster-bridge-road—Rev. Newman Hall, 11 and 6.30.
City Temple—Rev. Joseph Parker, D.D., 11 and 7.
Crouch End, Park Chapel—Rev. Alfred Rowland, LL.B., B.A., 11 and 6.30.
Finsbury-park Chapel, Seven Sisters'-road—Rev. T. Eynon Davies, 11 and 6.30.
Hampstead, Lyndhurst-road—R. F. Horton, M.A., 11 and 7.
Hare-court, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury—Rev. Henry Simon, 11 and 7 (to young people).
Highgate—Rev. J. M. Gibbon, 11 and 6.30.
Holloway, Camden-road—Mark Wilks, 11 and 6.30.
New-court Chapel, Tollington-park—Rev. Allan Mines, B.A. (of Rock Ferry, Birkenhead), 11 and 6.30.
Union, Islington—Rev. Dr. Henry Allon, 11 and 6.30. (To young men.) Service of Praise, 3.30.
Westminster, James-street, Buckingham-gate—Rev. Dr. Dale (of Birmingham), 11 and 7.
Whitefield's Tabernacle Tottenham-court-road—Rev. J. Jackson Wray, 11 and 7.
City-road (Wesleyan)—Rev. W. G. Pascoe, 10.45 and 6.30.
Wesleyan West Central Mission, St. James's Hall—Rev. Mark Guy Pearse, 11; Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, M.A., 3.30 and 7.
Crouch-hill—Rev. J. T. McGaw, M.A., 11 and 6.30.
Islington, Colebrooke-row—Rev. Dr. Thain Davidson, 11 and 6.30.
Regent-square—Rev. Principal Edwards, D.D. (of Aberystwith), 11 and 7.
Exeter Hall, Strand (Y.M.C.A.)—Mr. E. J. Kennedy, 3.45; Mr. A. C. P. Coote, 7.30.
Bedford Chapel, Bloomsbury—Rev. Stopford Brooke, 11.15 and 7.
Camden-road Congregational Chapel, Holloway—Rev. Mark Wilks, 11 and 6.30.
Whitfield Presbyterian Church, Drury-lane—the Rev. J. Macmillan, of Ullapool, will preach a Gaelic sermon.
Brixton Hill (Wesleyan)—Morning (11), Rev. E. Thornton Smith; evening (6.30), Rev. F. J. Sharr.

SUNDAY LECTURES.

Toynbee Hall—Mr. W. C. Coupland, LL.D., "The New Morality," 7.30.
The Rev. Charles Voysey, Langham Hall, 11 and 7.
Ethical Society, Essex Hall, Essex-street, Strand—Mrs. Bryant, D.Sc., on "The Cause and Cure of some Moral Defects," 7.30.
Newton Hall, Fetter-lane, E.C.—Professor Beesly, "Modern History," 4; Mr. Frederic Harrison, "Government," 8.
Socialist League, Kelmscott House, Upper Mall, Hammersmith, W.—Mr. G. Bernard Shaw on "National Wealth," 8.
Star Radical Club, 104, Railton-road, Herne-hill, 8.30—J. Mitchell, "Radical Intolerance."
The Progressive Association, Penton Hall, 81, Pentonville-road—"Public Health in relation to Infectious Diseases" (with diagrams), by Dr. Charles Read, 7.
South Place Ethical Society, Finsbury, E.C., 11.15—Dr. Stanton Coit, "The History of South-place Chapel"; 4, Mr. John M. Robertson, "Mithraism"; 7, Free Concert.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE DEAD CROWN PRINCE.

RESULT OF THE POST-MORTEM.

The official *Wiener Zeitung* this morning (Reuter says) publishes a medical statement, signed by Professors Hofmann, Kundrat, and Widerhofer, explaining the cause of the Crown Prince's death, as ascertained by the post-mortem examination.

The three surgeons give it as their opinion that the Prince died of a wound doubtless inflicted by himself, and caused by a shot from a revolver, which was fired quite close to the head, with the result that the skull and the foreparts of the brain were shattered.

The statement declares death to have been instantaneous, and in support of the assumption that the Crown Prince committed the deed in a state of mental derangement cites a number of circumstances which medical experience has shown to be characteristic of an abnormal condition of the mind.

THE ARCHDUKE CHARLES RENOUNCES HIS RIGHTS.

The Archduke Charles Louis, the Emperor's brother, yesterday renounced his rights of succession to the Crowns of Austria and Hungary, in favour of his eldest son, Archduke Francis Ferdinand. The act of renunciation has not yet been formally drawn up, but a draft document was hurriedly prepared, and his Imperial Highness took the oaths of surrender privately before his brother. After this the Emperor summoned his new heir presumptive, Archduke Francis, and remained closeted with him for an hour. The renunciation of Archduke Charles Louis has caused general surprise.

THE FUTURE EMPEROR.

Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the future Emperor of Austria, is a son of Archduke Charles Louis's second marriage with the Princess Maria Annonciata, daughter of Ferdinand II., King of the Two Sicilies. He was born at Gratz in 1863, and is a major in the 4th Dragoon Regiment. A few years ago he inherited the large fortune of his relative, the Grand Duke of Modena, and in so doing took the name of Este. Yesterday he renounced the fortune and name in favour of his brother, Archduke Otho. Archduke Francis is unmarried, and has never made any great figure in Austrian society. He is said to be good-natured, gentle, and indolent.

THE BISMARCK ARTICLE.

ITS PUBLICATION FORBIDDEN IN GERMANY.

FURTHER SPECULATION AS TO ITS AUTHOR.

The publication in Germany of any extracts from the article on "The Bismarck Dynasty," in the *Contemporary Review*, has been forbidden. Extracts sent by telegraph have been suppressed. Telegrams from abroad state that the article has caused tremendous sensation on the Continent, and that the sensation has hardly been affected by the tragic end of the Crown Prince of Austria.

WHAT MR. ARCHIBALD FORBES THINKS.

Mr. Archibald Forbes sends us the following contribution to the discussion as to the authorship of the article:—

The range of possible authorship is very narrow. Internal evidence seems to point with no little directness at Sir Morell Mackenzie. Note that in two separate places there is a reference to the misdirection of the cannula by Bergmann as having shortened the Emperor Frederick's life. Note the use of such semi-technical terms as "spores" and "germs." Compare the point and force of the style with that of Mackenzie's "Life of Frederick the Noble," the vigour of invective characterizing article and book alike, the strokes of epigram, the fine wholesome hatred which both disclose. Sir Morell Mackenzie may disavow the authorship of the *Contemporary* article, but until he does so, I do not care to look further.

I have heard Mr. Frederick Greenwood's name mentioned; but although in the first part of his paper in the *Nineteenth Century* for this month there is a faint echo of the *Contemporary* article, he cannot fulfil what seems to me to be the necessary condition of having been living in the palace of Charlottenburg during the last illness of Frederick.

Yet another name may be mentioned—that of Count Seckendorf, the dead Emperor's Equerry, and now in England in attendance on his widow. Count Seckendorf has certainly the requisite knowledge to have written the paper; in private correspondence and conversation he proves himself to possess animus enough and to spare to qualify for its authorship; but his English, although fluent, is not the English of the *Contemporary* article; and apart from this it is in the last degree improbable that, under what assurance soever of secrecy, he would incur the risks his authorship of such an article would entail. There are internal evidences that the author is not a German. He writes of Herbert Bismarck having received his wound during "a cavalry attack at Mars la Tour by the French." There can scarcely be a German of any conversance with affairs who does not know that the charge of the Guard Dragoons in which Herbert Bismarck rode was made against three French infantry divisions (Mayral's, Grenier's, and De Cissey's) to cover the retreat of Wedel's shattered infantry brigade, crushed by an overwhelming superiority of French chassepot fire. Again no well-informed German would use the language of the *Contemporary* article in regard to the "great scandal" in which Herbert Bismarck involved himself in 1881 by his elopement with the Princess Carolath-Beuthen. In that matter he was immoral, but not ruffianly. He was infatuated by a woman several years older than himself. At his father's challenge, "Leave her or cease to be a son of mine," they parted, and he returned to duty at Berlin. But all Berlin knows that he is celibate for her sake, and that he waits to marry her when the Chancellor is dead.

The London correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post* says:—"Sir Morell Mackenzie remains first favourite, and his silence has rather strengthened than weakened the public belief in his identity with the writer. Of course, like many other distinguished men who have gone before him, he might remain quiet under the soft impeachment of writing a scholarly and able article he had never seen before it appeared in print, but in the present case the reasons are so strong for disavowing the article if it is not from his pen that it is thought he would have done so if he could."

WHO IS THE MAN IN THE MASK?

The authorship of the Bismarck article threatens to create as lively a controversy as arose over the letters of Junius. The London correspondent of the *Sheffield Telegraph* has heard that even the editor of the *Contemporary* does not know who the author is, and that the manuscript from which the article was set up was written with a type-writer. The name of the author will never be known.

The list of suggested authors continues to grow apace. Another London correspondent of the *Liverpool Courier* says:—No information can be obtained as to the authorship of the extraordinary article about Bismarck which has created so much sensation. The manuscript is destroyed.

It is whispered, says the *Record*, that the author of this remarkable paper is Sir Theodore Martin; but the secret of its authorship has, so far, been most carefully kept.

The most extraordinary suggestions continue to be made, and one London correspondent distinguishes himself by the brilliant discovery that the article was really and truly written by the editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette* from documents supplied direct from St. Petersburg.

All that need be said of this is that it is no whit wilder or more fantastic than many of the other suggestions, as will be seen from the following extraordinary list of persons who have been named as possible authors:—

The Empress Frederick
The Prince of Wales
Sir Theodore Martin
Sir Robert Morier
Sir Morell Mackenzie
Mrs. Oliphant
Sir M. E. Grant Duff
Count Seckendorff
Dr. Geffcken
Lord Arthur Russell
Mr. Rennell Rodd
Mr. Greenwood, late of the *St. James's Gazette*
The Editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*

"SIGHING AND SOBBING" AT THE "STAR."

MR. FIRTH THE GEN. MONK OF THE COMMONWEAL!

"WE ARE BEATEN!" DOWN WITH MR. FIRTH!

This is what the *Star* says to-day:—"It is not too much to say that every honest member of the Progressive party on the Council, and every honest supporter outside, will read the story of yesterday's surrender with amazement and chagrin. Thursday was bad enough. Friday is incalculably worse. A party which two days ago went into the Council with the absolute assurance of victory is to-day utterly broken and disheartened. The blame must rest on the authors of an inconceivably weak betrayal. That, after sifting out in repeated conclaves, and finally agreeing on a list of Aldermen, after going into the Council with a practically unanimous vote against adjournment behind him, Mr. Firth should have consented to the adjournment, and substituted the mixed for the Progressive list, is so utterly unnecessary and fatuous a bit of political ineptitude that we do not like to associate with it a man of Mr. Firth's great ability and great services. Possibly we are mistaken. Possibly Mr. Firth is not the author of the surrender, is not the General Monk who has given our commonweal into the hands of the foes. We would be glad to think that he is not, and that he simply went to the Tory meeting last night to protest against a compromise which has wrested the whole fruits of victory from our hands. The Tories have taken care to squeeze the last drop of humiliation into the cup which Mr. Firth commends to our lips to-day.

"We are beaten. A treaty has been signed behind our backs. The key of the fortress is in the hands of the enemy, and we can march out with all the honours of war. Only we trust that the Progressive Stalwarts will stick to their colours. They have their list, though they have lost their leader, their unity, their plan of campaign. We are willing to cede Lord Rosebery the Chairmanship. But we must have our candidate for the Deputy-Chairmanship. Time was when we should have welcomed Mr. Firth's appointment to that onerous post. But we want a fighting candidate, not a negotiator of compromises. Professor Stuart, who has nobly led the crusade of which the elections of a fortnight ago were the flower and fruit, is, we believe, eligible for the Deputy-Chairmanship. Let our still unbeaten and undemoralized Progressives rally to his name, which stands for everything that implies honour, integrity, unselfishness, and courage. Does Mr. Firth imagine that men like the Duke of Abercorn, Sir W. H. Wyatt, and Mr. G. Richardson will help him to do this work which London has given him to do? We do not know. All that we know is that the party which was created out of the ruins of Board of Worksdom has, after infinite pains to consolidate its forces, been scattered to the winds; that an unrivalled opportunity has been lost, a priceless chance of putting some heart and soul and honest purpose into our municipal politics coolly frittered away."

LOSS OF A STEAMER AND ALL HANDS.

SCREAMS OF THE DROWNING HEARD ON SHORE.

An Ilfracombe correspondent telegraphs:—A severe gale from the north west sprang up last night on the North Devon coast. About ten o'clock flash lights were seen in the channel, but the coastguards thought they were signals for a pilot. Information was received later, however, that a steamer was on the Pensborne rock. The coastguards immediately started with the rocket apparatus, but before their arrival the steamer rolled over and sank with all on board, the screams of the drowning men being distinctly heard from the shore. A lifebuoy was afterwards washed ashore with the words "S.S. *Lymington*, London," painted on it, and it has been discovered that this was the vessel which has gone down. It is improbable that she would have a crew of more than ten men on board her. She is an iron screw steamer, of 204 tons gross, and was built in London in 1882. She was classed A 1 at Lloyd's.

COMMOTION AT THE SALT TRUST MEETING.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A VENDOR.

The meeting of the Salt Trust to-day at the Cannon-street Hotel was interrupted by the sudden death of Mr. Hixon, one of the vendors of the company. He was taken ill during the chairman's speech, and died in a few minutes.

THE VACANT BISHOPRIC.

It is stated that the nomination to the vacant see of St. Asaphs has been placed by the Archbishop of Canterbury in the hands of the Welsh Bishops, the matter having been referred to his Grace by the Prime Minister.

A NEW GERMAN RIFLE.

The military authorities of Germany have now all but decided to replace the repeating rifle used by the German army with a new and improved pattern of which most wonderful things are expected.

RAILWAY RATES IN KENT.

A public meeting was held at Sittingbourne last evening to consider the question of railway rates between that place and London. It was proposed to form a joint stock company to run a steam barge between Sittingbourne and London, by which it was contended that goods could be conveyed to and from Sittingbourne at half the present charges. A committee was appointed to consider the proposal and to obtain further information.

SNOW IN NORTH WALES AND SCOTLAND.

A severe storm, accompanied by hail and snow, prevailed over North Wales throughout last night and this morning, doing much damage to property. Heavy seas are running in Cardigan Bay. The higher mountain ranges are capped with snow for many miles.

A snowstorm, the first of the season, set in early this morning over Perthshire. Snow has fallen since midnight, and snow lies to a considerable depth on the hills as well as the low grounds. A strong frosty gale also prevails and the air is intensely cold.

The Queen will be at Buckingham Palace for three days in the last week of this month. During her stay in town her Majesty will visit the Stuart Exhibition, in which she has taken the greatest and most practical interest.

Lieutenant Prince George of Wales was appointed yesterday to the *Northumberland*, flagship of Vice-Admiral John K. E. Baird, commanding the Channel Squadron.

Lady Randolph Churchill is with her sister Mrs. Leslie in Paris. Mr. Leslie is visiting the studios of the French capital, and is busy studying the French school of painting.

Lord Salisbury, it is said, is completely reticent about the appointment to Washington, and has made, and will make, no move until he receives a communication from Mr. Bayard's successor, who will probably be Mr. Blaine.

A Rochdale telegram states that Mr. Bright's stationary if not retrogressive condition is causing rather more uneasiness just now.

Mr. Joseph Dodds, ex-M.P. for Stockton, continues to improve, though slowly.

The Freemasons of New South Wales have decided to separate from the parent body in England.

A large number of fresh pictures and works of art have been temporarily added to the Nottingham Castle collection.

Mr. Farndale, the chief-constable of Birmingham, is improving in health, but very slowly.

President Cleveland gave the last official hand-shake to the Congress and Judiciary yesterday.

The New York theatres are hard hit by the car strike.

Sir George Willis intends to stand for Parliament as soon as his command of the southern division expires.

It is thought that the big ball which the Baroness Burdett-Coutts was to give on the 6th of this month will now be postponed. In any case, the Prince and Princess cannot keep their promise of being present.

The Donegal Industrial Fund has been entrusted with all the hangings and arrangements of the draperies of the British section at the Paris Exhibition. The hangings are to be woven and dyed in Ireland.

In addition to the useful work Mrs. Ernest Hart has already set on foot to relieve to some considerable extent the wretched lives of our brethren in the Emerald Isle, says the *Manchester Examiner*, she is about to start a similar benevolent work for the crofters of Scotland.

Mrs. Palton, who died at a very advanced age in Somersetshire last week, was a cousin of Mr. John Walter, the chief proprietor of the *Times*, and she herself derived an income of five or six thousand a year from her share in the paper.

A SIX-DAY BILL.

REMARKABLE MOVEMENT IN AMERICA.

To-day the *New York Herald* published its first English edition. Its promoters boast that it will be issued Sunday and every day. In the first issue they say :—"The London edition of the *New York Herald* will appear daily, but not daily as understood in English journalism. A new departure will be made. The London edition of the *New York Herald* will be published seven days a week, and the Sunday edition will be the feature of the week." All the staff—compositors, machinists, and journalists—therefore, will be required to work seven days every week. For them the weekly rest day has ceased to exist.

In view of this American innovation it is worth while noticing that the current number of *Our Day* reports a remarkable movement in the States in favour of stricter legislation for preserving to labour the day of rest. At present it is estimated that three millions out of seventeen millions of wage workers were deprived of their weekly rest. Senator Blair has a Sunday Rest Bill before Congress, in support of which the International Conventions of the Locomotive Engineers and the Knights of Labour have petitioned, and which has also the support of most of the Churches—Protestant and Catholic. An American Sabbath Union has been formed. At the close of an address on the National Sunday Rest Law, the Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts held a discussion with the International Conventions of the Knights of Labour and the Locomotive Engineers, from which we take the following extract :—

I believe in a law requiring that some week-day be given for rest to those engaged in such work as is permitted on Sunday, in accordance with the following petition, which was endorsed by the Knights of Labour Council of Chicago :

To the State Senate :—

The undersigned earnestly petition your honourable body to pass a bill forbidding any one to hire another or to be hired for more than six days of any week, except in domestic service and the care of the sick, in order that those whom law or custom permits to work on Sunday may be protected in their right to some other weekly rest day, and in their right to a week's wages for six days' work.

Question.—Cannot this Sunday rest, in which I believe, be secured without law, and so without interfering with personal liberty, by agreements among Churches, among engineers, &c. ?

Answer.—Sunday laws do not in any way interfere with true liberty, for they do not require any man to be religious. A six-day law is no more a violation of liberty than an eight-hour law. In shortening the hours of labour it is a great advantage for the law to name as the rest day one which is already a rest day to a large number of the population on religious grounds. On the Continent of Europe the voluntary plan has failed so signally that even the conventions of Socialists are asking for stricter laws against Sunday work.

ANOTHER GROSVENOR GALLERY SPLIT.

We have been requested to publish the following correspondence :—

Dear Sir Coutts Lindsay,—In consequence of certain difficulties which arose during the collection and arrangement of the last spring exhibition, I feel that it would be more to my own interest, as well as yours, that my connection with the Grosvenor Gallery should be confined to the exhibitions of the works by deceased artists. Will you kindly take this into serious consideration ?—Believe me, yours faithfully (Signed), CHARLES W. DESCHAMPS.

To Sir Coutts Lindsay, Bart., Grosvenor Gallery.

Grosvenor Gallery, Central Office, January 31, 1889.

Dear Deschamps,—In answer to your letter, I should deeply regret your withdrawal from the Grosvenor. I am of opinion, however, with you, that in many respects your position as an art dealer may prejudice any assistance you may give me with regard to the exhibition of living artists, and make all action on your part difficult. I hope, in any case, you will continue to give your services and assistance in the collection of works by deceased artists, and that you will still remain on the establishment of the Grosvenor at the same salary as heretofore. I further wish to express to you the high appreciation I have of the assistance you have rendered me during the late exhibitions.—Ever yours truly,

(Signed) COUTTS LINDSAY.

PATTI SINGS ONCE MORE BEFORE LEAVING.

We have just heard that Patti has promised to give a farewell concert on Thursday, February 28, at the Albert Hall, under the auspices of Mr. Percy Harrison. Patti leaves London on the following morning, and sails from Bordeaux on March 4.

WHY MR. GROSSMITH WEARS A PHEASANT'S FEATHER.

"Last night," writes a representative, "I happened to be in Mr. Grossmith's dressing room, at the Savoy, when the Merryman was putting on the motley garb of the Jester. He was adjusting the cap and bells, when the long feather which sprouts out of the top of the cap got caught in the red shade which hangs over the electric light. 'What sort of a feather is that, Mr. Grossmith?' I asked. 'A pheasant's feather.' 'Why pheasant?' 'Well, at rehearsals I had a peacock's feather, and there was a general remonstrance.' 'Why?' 'Because we actors and actresses are rather superstitious, and peacock's feathers are, it seems, particularly unlucky. So I changed the peacock for a pheasant. And that's why.'"

HIGH JINKS AT THE LYRIC CLUB.

"Amateurs ! Poor ill-used amateurs. They have scored at last," writes a correspondent. "The last Lyric Club soirée was devoted entirely to amateurs—the very best—not the village penny-reader—*bien entendu*. And the amateurs attracted the largest number of guests yet known at the Lyric Club. Two hundred and thirty members were refused guests' tickets, though, no doubt, many came without the syrens for whom no room could be found. The Earl and Countess of Londesborough brought their daughters, the Ladies Lilian and Mildred Denison. Lord and Lady Coleridge patiently waited to hear the Hon. Gilbert Coleridge make a big success by singing a song of his own composition. Mr. Bouchier and Mr. Colnaghi showed us what amateur dramatic art has risen to, to the evident approval of Lord and Lady Hothfield, Mr. Cotsford Dick (who is too good a professional composer to be allowed to sing), and Mr. Oscar Wilde, who beamed. Mrs. Ronalds was present, but could not be persuaded "to oblige." Canon Shuttleworth ought to have recited, but really there was an *embarras de richesse*. The seventeen members of the Wandering Minstrels and Royal Amateur Orchestral Society wandered not, but stuck to their instrumental work as though they were not amateurs but highly-paid professional artistes. Mr. Alfred Scott-Gatty represented the musical talents of the committee, Sir Arthur Sullivan not being allowed to compete under amateur rules, and the members showed their appreciation of their committeeman's excellent 'plantation songs.' The electric light, I hear, has improved. Bravo! There is actually some 'on' before eight."

MR. SPURGEON'S HEALTH.

At the usual Thursday evening service at the Metropolitan Tabernacle a telegram from Mentone was read by the officiating minister (Rev. Mr. Greenwood) from Mr. Spurgeon stating that he was daily improving, but that his knee was so weak that he cannot hope to preach before February 24th. He had mentioned in a letter received this week that he hoped to preach on 17th. The tone of his letter was more cheerful, but the rev. gentleman has evidently suffered much more than has been known.

THE UNITED STATES SENATE WILL NOT EXTRADITE POLITICAL OFFENDERS.

In the United States Senate, during the resumed debate on the Extradition Treaty with Great Britain, both parties attacked the amendments made, and the House struck out all political offences, and also the provision for extradition for malicious injuries to property whereby the life of any person should be endangered. The supporters of the treaty moved to refer it back to Committee, but the proposal was defeated by 33 votes to 22, and the debate was again adjourned.

THE POPE'S INDEPENDENCE.—ALARMING SCENE.

The reports about the state of the Pope's health, and his having been found insensible on the floor of his chamber, are, says the *Standard* correspondent at Rome, exaggerations. The facts are as follows :—After receiving many reports from abroad, setting forth the disinclination of the Powers to re-open the Roman question, and the slight impression produced by the votes and addresses of Catholic Congresses and Bishops, the Pope called a meeting of certain Cardinals to consider the question of the Pope's independence. The meeting was somewhat animated. The Pope exhibited considerable agitation, and put an abrupt end to the sitting. When about to rise, he was seen to stagger, and there was a moment of anxiety, but while being carried to his apartment the Pope came to himself, and refused to be carried further. Some audiences were suspended, but they were subsequently resumed, as Leo XIII. appears to have returned to his usual state of health.

MR. BALFOUR AND THE MANSION HOUSE MESSENGER.

A STRANGE STORY FROM DUBLIN.

A strange story comes from Dublin to-day. Mr. Sexton, M.P., the Lord Mayor, telegraphed to Mr. Balfour, protesting against the brutal violence offered to Mr. O'Brien, and warning him that the anger of the public was rapidly reaching a point at which restraint might not be possible. Receiving no reply up to one o'clock this morning, he sent a note by the house steward, who arrived at the Chief Secretary's lodge about two. The house steward, having pulled the bell three or four times, the door was opened by Mr. Balfour, who asked him who he was. The steward replied that the Lord Mayor of Dublin sent him with a letter for an answer. Whereupon, so the steward says, Mr. Balfour said it was outrageous for a telegram to be sent at that hour, and finished up by the remark, "There is no reply; go away, you cur." As the steward was getting on the car to return to the Mansion House, Mr. Balfour reappeared at the door and cried out, "You ruffian, if you don't get away I will have you arrested." Then to the sergeant of police, "Why do you allow these cars to come up at this hour of the night?"

The Lord Mayor of Dublin says a public meeting should be held in Phœnix Park to-morrow and mass meetings throughout the country, and he will himself bring the matter before the Dublin Corporation on Monday next.

THE PROPOSED MATCH UNION.

It was reported yesterday that Messrs. Bryant and May had joined the proposed "Match Union," but this is hardly credible in view of the recent circular from that firm, stating that they were in no way connected with the proposed scheme. Moreover, it is very unlikely that a company which pays such handsome dividends will take part in a combination which will be saddled with a great number of old-fashioned factories possessing very few of the most modern appliances. As far as we can hear, it is proposed to close half the factories—the elder ones—as soon as the company is floated. Apart from that, we are told that the Swedish laws require that no alien can own factories there, so that the factories, if acquired by the new English company, will have to be vested in some native of Sweden, and this the present shareholders of Bryant and May would scarcely approve of.

THE GREAT BURGLARY AT ASCOT.

Superintendent Iremonger spent a considerable time yesterday in instituting further inquiries into the burglary at the residence of Mr. White, at Ramslade Park, Ascot. A case which had contained a heart-shaped brooch mounted with brilliants has been found on the railway between Virginia Water and Egham, and there is no doubt that the route taken by the burglars was across the lawn to the railway. The actual value of the property stolen is £4,000. No clue has been yet obtained to the perpetrators of the burglary. It is believed by the occupants of Ramslade that the robbery could not have occupied more than ten minutes, for the butler was in the room as late as twenty minutes past nine, and the movements of the thieves seem to have been nicely arranged to avoid disturbance. Immediately the robbery was discovered the butler commenced to ring the alarm bell, but after pulling the rope one or twice it broke. He then fired a revolver, and this brought two men to his assistance. Superintendent Iremonger believes that the burglary was committed by an expert set of London thieves, who are connected with the robberies of a similar kind which have taken place in various parts of the country. The family were about to remove to London, and this fact had probably become known to the thieves, who seized an opportune moment after the servants had finished packing.

TO THE RESCUE OF WILLIAM O'BRIEN.

Mr. Conybeare, M.P., writes :—"May I state, through your columns, that I shall be at the National Liberal Club this (Saturday) afternoon at 2.30 to four o'clock ; and shall be glad to meet there any friends or members who may care to discuss the possibility of forming a committee to try and save the lives of William O'Brien and his brave colleagues from the murderous assaults of Gaoler Balfour?"

THE CORINTHIAN CLUB.

"There was quite a brilliant and festive crowd last night," a correspondent writes, "to celebrate the opening of the new club in York-street, St. James's-square, which Mr. John Hollingshead with characteristic enterprise and energy has just started. The Corinthian Club, so it seems, is needed. It supplies a want ; and now that the 'Lotos' is extinct, it will worthily fill its place. Mr. Hollingshead has secured very handsome premises for his new venture. The superb ball-room once used by the Owls' Club with its delicate salmon-coloured hangings, has a neat little theatre at one end of it. Then, upstairs there is a large smoking-room, one part of it being in the form of a private box which overlooks the dancing-room. The whole *salon* is most daintily furnished *à la Japonaise*, and leads to a suite of snug little supper rooms, over which a famous *chef* presides. Indeed, the *cuisine* promises to be of exceptional excellence. Among the two hundred guests present at the christening of the new club where several notabilities in the theatrical and musical world, who one and all seemed delighted with their new playhouse, or rather their new temple of recreation. This corner of Corinth is bound to be popular, for everything that taste and zeal can achieve has been done to make it so. Bohemia now counts another club—perhaps the smartest, prettiest, best of its sort in London."

PROTECTION FROM FIRE.

A letter was read at the Islington vestry's meeting last night from the Metropolitan Board of Works, stating that it was desired, if practicable, that "fire ladders" should be kept at the metropolitan police-stations for the use of the police in cases of emergency, and the Chief Commissioner had been communicated with to this end.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE MISSIONARY FIELDS.

The Universities Mission to East Africa received a cablegram yesterday from Quilimane, *viâ* Mozambique, and dated January 27. The cablegram refers to the ordinary business of the mission, and in the absence of anything additional in the way of information, it is regarded as good news, so far as relates to the Zambesi and Lake Nyassa district.

AN EXTRAORDINARY MURDER IN TUNIS.

A most extraordinary crime has been committed in the very centre of the European quarter at Tunis. At half-past one o'clock yesterday morning the neighbours of Madame Derenne, a French lady, who kept a girls' school, were startled by pitiful cries for help coming from Madame Derenne's bedroom. When they entered they found that lady tied down in her bed, and her husband dead, with his throat cut from ear to ear. The unfortunate woman declares she neither saw nor heard anything, and did not know her husband had been murdered. It is supposed a narcotic had been administered to both M. and Mdme. Derenne. The murderers stole all the money and jewels they could lay their hands on.

AMERICAN AND COLONIAL ARRIVALS TO-DAY.

HOTEL MÉTROPOLE.

H. Raphael and Mrs., New York.
R. Macfarland, Melbourne.
O. L. Taylor, St. Paul, Minn.
Fred M. Catlin, St. Paul, Minn.
Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Bergner, Philadelphia.
Mrs. and Miss Ambrose, Mauritius.
Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell, Virginia.

HOTEL VICTORIA.

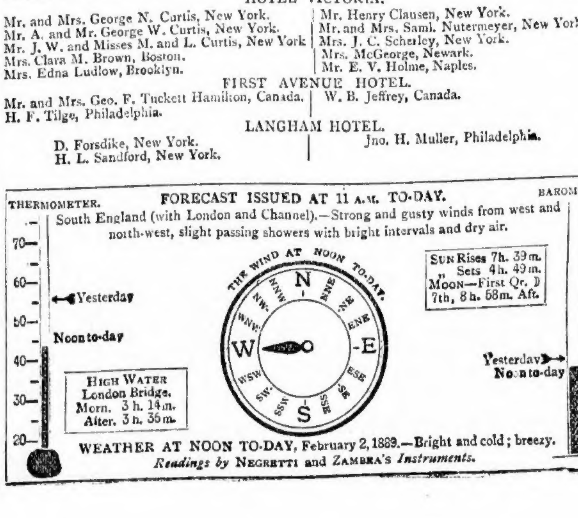
Mr. and Mrs. George N. Curtis, New York.
Mr. A. and Mr. George W. Curtis, New York.
Mr. J. W. and Misses M. and L. Curtis, New York.
Mrs. Clara M. Brown, Boston.
Mrs. Edna Ludlow, Brooklyn.
Mr. Henry Clausen, New York.
Mr. and Mrs. Saml. Nutermeyer, New York.
Mrs. J. C. Scherley, New York.
Mrs. McGeorge, Newark.
Mr. E. V. Holme, Naples.

FIRST AVENUE HOTEL.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. F. Tuckett Hamilton, Canada.
H. F. Tilge, Philadelphia.
W. B. Jeffrey, Canada.

LANGHAM HOTEL.

D. Forsdike, New York.
H. L. Sandford, New York.
Jno. H. Muller, Philadelphia.



THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

MARKETS ALL FIRM.—QUOTATIONS AGAIN HIGHER.

In the open market this morning there is a good demand for money in connection with the payment for the last issue of Treasury bills, which it is estimated will absorb about a million of the available supply of cash in the hands of the lending establishments. The quotation for short loans, however, is not better than 2 per cent. The discount rate for three months' bank paper is now 2⅜ per cent, with little disposition to do business at anything under that figure.

On the Stock Exchange there is still a desire to buy stocks in all directions, and speculative business has broadened rapidly the last day or two. The tendency of prices is again good, and in some instances a further substantial rise is exhibited. Consols are firm, Goschens showing a rise of ⅛. In the Home Railway market everything is being purchased with the single exception of Hull and Barnsley stock, which has been offered to a slight extent to secure profits. Investment stocks such as Lancashire and Yorkshire and South Western are in demand, as well as the more speculative descriptions. In the Foreign department the changes are to higher prices, though they are few and for the most part unimportant. Spanish are strongly supported, and have now risen to 74 5-16. American Railroads continue the advance which set in yesterday, and the market presents a stronger and more settled appearance than for some time past. Wabash Mortgage bonds are a further 1½ up. Trunks are better, as also Mexican Railway issues and Nitrate Railway shares.

How wealth makes wealth is well illustrated in the case of North's Navigation Collieries, Glamorganshire, which have just been taken over by a limited liability company. According to our information the property was purchased by Colonel North about eight months ago for £150,000. Collieries were at a discount at the time, and the purchaser no doubt got a bargain. With the improvement in trade and the higher prices of coal which have ruled since then these properties have largely risen in value, and the vendor now gets £350,000 for the concern—£230,000 in cash and £120,000 in shares.

The new plan which the bondholders of the Mexican Central Railroad are now asked to agree to is summarised as follows :—

1. To pay off securities bearing 10 per cent., and replace them with those bearing only 5 per cent. 2. To materially improve the security of the First Mortgage Four per Cent. Bonds. 3. To give the Four per Cent. bondholders, for their contingent Three per Cent. rights, a capital sum of about 15,000,000 dols., or 300 dols. additional capital for each 1,000 dols. bond deposited. This is estimated equal to from ten to twelve points on the par value of the existing Four per Cent. Bonds, which will thus have to be added. 4. To improve the prospects of the income bondholders by placing them 1,300,000 dols. nearer a dividend that under existing arrangements. 5. To place the stock within measurable distance of a dividend. 6. To create a substantial capital reserve fund, leaving the net earnings entirely free for distribution among the security holders.

The Stock Conversion and Investment Trust (Limited) is a new undertaking with a capital of £2,500,000. The first issue consists of £1,250,000, dividend into 124,900 ordinary shares of £10 each and 1,000 founders' shares of £1 each : 41,500 ordinary shares and the founders' shares have, it is stated, been subscribed in terms of the prospectus, and allotted, and the balance of 83,400 ordinary shares is now offered for subscription. This trust company has been formed with the view of providing an organization whereby existing stocks may be converted into more than one class of security ; the income of one portion being thus rendered more secure, and the whole, it is believed, more negotiable and attractive to investors.

Messrs. Heseltine, Powell and Co., 1, Drapers'-gardens, E.C., state that they are authorised by Messrs. Maitland, Phelps, and Co., of New York, to receive subscriptions for an issue of 2,5000,000 dols., being part of 6,000,000 dols. Equipment and Improvement Mortgage Five per Cent. Gold Bonds of the East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia Railway Company. The price is 92½ per cent., or £185 per bond of 1,000 dols., being the equivalent of 90 per cent. currency in New York. A simultaneous issue is made in New York by Messrs. Maitland, Phelps, and Co. The bonds run till 1938. The proceeds are, it is stated, to be applied to the purchase of additional equipment and to the general improvement of the property.

Messrs. Matheson and Co. have posted the letters of allotment and regret in the Delhi, Umballa, Kalka Railway Company (Limited).

The letters of allotment and regret of the Suanlambah (Borneo) Tobacco Company (Limited) have been sent out.

Dividends declared.—The Great Northern Railway Company at the rate of £5 15*s.* per cent. per annum on the original stock of the company, giving for the half-year £2 17*s.* 6*d.* to the original stock, £3 per cent. to the B stock, £2 15*s.* per cent. to the A stock. The Midland Railway Company at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, carrying forward £52,000. The dividend last year was at 5¾ per cent. per annum, and the amount carried forward about the same. The Rhymney Railway Company at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum, with £172 carried forward. The Commercial Bank of Australia at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum. The directors of the London Pavilion (Limited) at the rate of 6 per cent. for the half-year, making with the interim dividend declared in June last 12 per cent. per annum.

LIVERPOOL COTTON.—The market opened quiet, with a fair demand. Probable sales 8,000 bales. Futures remain steady and unchanged.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing :—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Adanced*: South Western 1, Caledonian ⅞, Midland ¾, Great Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, North Western, and District ½ each, Chatham Preference ½, the Ordinary ⅛, Sheffield Deferred ⅜, North Eastern, Metropolitan, and Brighton Deferred ¼, North British Deferred ¼, the Preferred ⅛, and Great Eastern ⅛. *Receded*: Hull and Barnsley ¼.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced*: Spanish Four per Cents., 7-16; Egyptian Unified, French Three and Four and a Half per Cents., Italian, Greek 1881, and Uruguay Bonds ¼ each, Peruvian Five and Six per Cents. 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—*Risen*: Wabash Mortgage 1½, the Preference ⅞, Lake Shore ⅞, Illinois Central, Louisville and Nashville, Mexican Central Bonds, Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary, and Union Pacific shares ¼ each, Denver Preference ½, the Ordinary ¼, New York Central, Milwaukee and St. Paul, and Philadelphia and Reading shares ⅜, Atlantic First Mortgage ⅜, Central Pacific shares, Erie Second Mortgage, and Northern Pacific Preferences ¼, Norfolk and Western Preference and Ontario shares ⅛.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Higher*: Nitrate shares ¾, Grand Trunk First, Second, and Third Preference ¼, the Ordinary 1-16, Mexican Second Preference ¼, the Ordinary ⅛, and Canadian Pacific ¼.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved*: Suez Canal ½, and Rio Tinto 3-16.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares :—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols	100¼	½
New Consols (2¾)	99	⅛
Reduced 3 p. c.	100¼	1¼
Local Loan Stock	103¼	4¼
New 2½ per Cent	95½	6
India 3½ per Cent.	107¼	8¼
Do. 4½ p. c. Ru.	69⅞	70⅛
Egyptian Guar.	101¼	2¼
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½	112¼	¾
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip	103½	4
Birmingham Crp. St	111	12
Liverpool	112	13

FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentine 6 p. c.	102	4
Do. Hard Dols.	67	½
Do. Treasury	95½	6½
Austrian Gold	92	4
Do. Silver	68	70
Brazilian 1875	101½	2½
B. Ayres 6 p. c.	101	3
Do. Cedulas I.	59¼	¾
Chilian 4½ p. c. 1885	103	5
Costa Rica A.	91½	1½
Do. B	87½	8½
Egypt. State Dom	101½	2
Do. Unified	85¼	⅜
Do. Preference	103⅛	⅜
Do. Daira Sanieh	80½	¾
French 3 p. c. Rnts.	82¼	¾
Do. 4½ p. c. Rnts.	103¼	4¼
Greek 5 p. c. 1881	83	½
Hung. Gold Rentes	84⅛	⅜
Italian	93¼	½
Mexican Converted	39½	¾
Peruvian 5 p. c. '72	14½	¾
Do. 6 p. c.	16	¼
Portuguese	6⅛	⅜
Russian 1873	101⅞	2⅛
Spanish 4 p. c.	74¼	⅜
Turkish 1854	100	2
Group 1	27½	8
Group 2	15⅜	⅞
Group 4	15	¼
4½ p. c. 1871	83¼	¾
5 p. c. Defence	97¾	¾
5 p. c. Priority	85	7
Uruguay Unified	71¼	¾
Virginia Funded	4½	5
U.S. 4½ p. c.	110	12

BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Caledonian	113¼	½
Great Eastern	69¼	½ xd
Great Northern	118½	19½
Ditto A	105½	6
Great Western	165½	6
Hull and Barnsley	36½	7
Lanc. and York.	113½	20½
Brighton (Ordinary)	145	7 xd
Brighton A.	135⅞	7⅛ xd
Chatham (Ordinary)	25	¾
Do. Preference	106½	7
North Western	178	½
South Western	143½	9½
Manchester & Shef.	73	5
Do. A	39⅛	⅜
Met. Consolidated	76½	7
Do. Land Stock	69½	70¼
Do. District	35	½
Midland	141¼	¾
North British Pref	77⅛	⅜
Do. Def.	57¼	8 xd
North Eastern	166⅞	7⅛
North Stafford	117	19
South Eastern	134	6
Do. Deferred	111⅛	⅝

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	53¼	4 xd
Cen. Pacific Share	36¼	7 xd
Chic. Mil. and St. Pl.	67½	8
Denver & R. Grande	16⅞	17⅛
Do. Pref.	44	½
Illinois Shares	118	19
Lake Shore	107½	¾
Ohio & Mississippi	23½	4
Louis. and Nash.	60½	¾ xd
Mex. Cen. Bonds	75¼	¾
Miss. Kan. & Texas	13½	14
N. Y. Cen. Shares	112¼	13¼
New York Ontario	18¾	19
Erie Shares	29⅞	30⅛
Do. Sec. Mort.	105¼	6¼
Norfolk & West. Pref	54	½
N.Y.P. & O. 1st M.	35¼	¾
North Pacific Pref	62½	3
Pennsylvania Sh.	55½	7
Phil. & Read. Sh.	25	¼
Union Pacific Shares	66⅛	⅜
Wabash Preference	27¼	¾
Do. Gen. Mort.	45½	6½
Grand Trunk Ord	12⅛	¼
Do. First Pref.	74⅛	⅜
Do. Second Pref.	54¼	½
Do. Third Pref.	29⅜	⅝
Do. Guaranteed.	75⅜	⅞
Mexican Ordinary	42¼	½
Do. First Pref	119	½
Ob. do. 2nd Pref.	72¼	¾
Lombardo-Venetian	8⅜	⅞
Varna 3 per cent.	8	¼
Nitrate Railway	25½	6

BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	14	½ xd
City Bank	20	1
Consolidated Bank	7¾	8¼ xd
Imperial Ottoman	11 5/16	5/16
London and County	88	9
Union of London	39	40 xd
London and West.	67	8 xd
London Joint Stock	38½	9½ xd
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	44	5
Stand. Bnk. S. Africa	62½	3½ xd

MINES.		
Indian Consolidated	5/16	7/16
Mysore shares	5	¼
Ooregums	1⅞	2
Cape Copper	5⅜	½
Namaqua	3	¼
Mason and Barry	8⅞	9⅛
Rio Tinto	21 3/16	5/16
Montana £1 shares	2¼	⅜
DeBeers new shares	17¼	½
S. African Explor.	16⅞	17⅛

TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONES.		
Anglo-American	50	1
Do. Pref.	84½	5
Brazilian Submarine	13⅝	⅞
Direct Unit. State	9⅞	10⅛
Eastern	12⅛	⅞
Ditto Extension	12⅞	13⅛
United Telephone	14⅛	⅜
Globe Teleg. Trust	7	¼ xd

TRAMWAYS, ETC.		
London Gen. Om.	200	10
London Street	13	14
London Tramway	14½	15½
North Metropolitan	18	½

WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterworks	253	64
East London	205	6
Grand Junction	121	5
Kent	277	82
Lambeth	253	8
New River, New	350	60
S'thwrk & Vauxhall	167	72
W. Middlesex	265	70

GAS & ELECTRIC LIGHT.		
Gaslight & Coke A	261	5
Imp. Continental	210	14
South Metropolitan	310	15
Brush Elec Lt (£4 pd)	3¾	4

MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp	8	⅜
Guinness and Co.	317½	22½
Hotchkiss	10¾	11
Bryant and May	12¾	13 xd
Spratt's Patent	9⅝	⅞
Liverpool Nitrate	25	7
Primitiva Nitrate	33¼	4¼ xd
Salt Union Shares	4	¼ pm
P. and O. Steam	66	8
Royal Mail Steam	63	71
Nat. Discount Co.	11½	12 xd
Hudson's Bay	19⅞	20⅛
Suez Canal	87¾	8¼
E. & W. Ind. Dock	17	19
London and St. K.	39	40

The following are quotations of securities receiving attention at present, and not given in our list above :—

Bulgarian	84½	5½ xd
Bell's Asbestos	18¾	19
Tarapaca Bank	3¾	4¼ pm
Tarapaca Water	13¼	¾
Jumper's Gold	17⅝	¾
Spes Bona	5½	6
Oceana Land	23	4
Wemmers	15⅝	16
Langlaagtes	4¾	5
Jubilee	10	½
San Jorge	7	½ pm
Pahang Corporation	6⅞	7⅛ pm
Simmer and Jack	10⅝	11

TO-DAY'S TITTLE TATTLE.

Clonmel, which is now the scene of Mr. O'Brien's imprisonment, is one of the prettiest towns in Ireland. It is famous for its Cromwellian associations. Oliver, it may be remembered, intended to reserve Tipperary as his own estate, and Clonmel abounds with traditions of the siege which it underwent when the Commonwealth undertook the subjugation of Ireland. To this day the Irishry who speak their native tongue hold their market outside the walls of the town—a relic of the time when they would no more be admitted within the fortifications than Osman Digna would be admitted within the lines of Suakin.

***

Here is another little sketch of the scene on which the eyes of those fell who entered Prince Rudolph's bedroom as soon as the terrible deed became known. Above the bed on which he died a picture of the Crown Princess Stéphanie hangs in a silver frame. On the table lay water-colour sketches, a large folio with architectural plans, and two unopened letters. The head of the dead man rested on two bolsters, and in his face not the slightest change was noticeable.

***

It was quite a great function last night at Westminster Town Hall. Every one was there who was any one, and as charity benefited by the general crush everybody has reason to be satisfied. But even although Mr. Birrell did marry the daughter-in-law of the Poet Laureate, published a smart book, and delivered a pleasant lecture, Mr. Morley surely showed a lack of the sense of proportion when he piled up such a profusion of epithets as those under which he overwhelmed the lecturer last night.

***

When Mr. Morley said that Mr. Birrell had delivered one of the most interesting pieces of criticisms it had ever been his good fortune to hear or read, it was pretty strong, but when he added that the lecturer had "given us a number of pungent, of pithy, of witty, of true, and of deep-reaching sayings which we shall all remember as long as we remember literary criticism at all," I pause, and take breath. Then I ask myself how many of these pungent, pithy, true, deep-reaching sayings Mr. Morley will remember this time next week, and marvel that so acute and discriminating a critic could have submerged his faculties in the butter-boat.

***

"I could not truly say," remarked Lord Coleridge last night, "remembering that Cardinal Newman is living, and that Lord Tennyson is still among us, that Mr. John Morley is the first living English man of letters." I have seldom heard a more ingenious piece of flattery than is contained in the admission that Mr. Morley is eclipsed by Cardinal Newman and Lord Tennyson, coupled with the implication that he in his turn eclipses Mr. Browning, Mr. Ruskin, Mr. Swinburne, and all other living English men of letters. Mr. Morley is at any rate too good a critic not to have been amused by the substance of the compliment, and charmed by its form.

***

Apropos of the Poet Laureate, the story is going the round that Mr. Alfred Austin is to be the next Laureate, if he should survive Lord Tennyson. Mr. Browning, Mr. Swinburne and Mr. Morris are neither of them exactly courtiers, but now that Mr. Swinburne has become so vehement a Unionist perhaps he may see his way to become the Psalmist of the Prince of Wales.

***

In this connection I may note that M. Pobedonostzeff, who is better known for his weakness for Protesting Orthodoxy than for his really extraordinary knowledge of English literature, declared the other day that he regarded Mr. William Morris as far and away the first of living English poets.

***

None of the stories of the late Lord Beaconsfield show him in so pleasant a light as those which concern his dealings as a Minister with men of letters. Every one remembers the generosity and felicity of his offer of an "honour" to Carlyle. The little story told by Lord Coleridge last night of Disraeli and Dr. Lightfoot is equally charming. Dr. Lightfoot went to stay with Disraeli after his appointment to the bishopric of Durham, and began to thank the Minister for it. "No," said Disraeli, "it is I who ought to thank you. It must indeed have been a sorrow and a trouble to you to leave your books and your learned life for public affairs. I have gone through it and experienced it myself."

***

Disraeli's remark suggests to me a point which Mr. Morley left out in his address on Gibbon last night. He spoke of eminent statesmen and of eminent men of letters, and discussed their relative state and fortunes. But he said nothing—perhaps for fear of coming too near to a personal matter—of cases in which the eminent statesman and the eminent man of letters is one and the same. Disraeli himself was an instance. Would he have done better to devote himself wholly to letters, or wholly to politics? or was it not rather the case that his novels owed their *cachet* to his politics, and that as a politician he was at his best when his love of letters came into play?

***

"At San Remo," writes an Irish lady who is staying there, "the weather is charming. It was quite like the middle of summer to-day (January 29). The olive trees and the pepper trees are lovely, and there are great quantities of beautiful flowers growing everywhere."

THE POPE'S ENCYCLICAL AS A NEWSPAPER SUPPLEMENT

The *Freeman's Journal* yesterday expressed great surprise and disapproval at a publisher's circular sent round from the office of the *Tablet*, announcing the publication "*by request of the Holy See*" of an English translation of the Pope's Encyclical. The *Freeman's Journal* is aghast at the identification of the Holy See with any journal, and considers that only damage to the Holy See can result from making the circulation of the Pope's message a question of the enterprise of a Catholic organ.

"What is it all about?" asked a representative who called on the editor thus attacked.

"A very simple matter," explained Mr. Cox. "The phrase quoted is, of course, from a trade circular. It is, perhaps, hardly what I should have used myself. Still, it is true that our translation is, in a double sense, the 'authorized version,' and was undertaken in deference to the Holy Father's wish for an extensive circulation of the Encyclical in English."

"How is it with the authorized version, Mr. Cox?"

"Well, we first published a translation in the *Tablet*, which was prepared and revised at the Archbishop's house, under the direction of Cardinal Manning, and before being issued in pamphlet form it was revised a second time. The connection with the Holy Father is neither more nor less than that."

PROPOSED EXHIBITION OF DECORATIVE ART.

The Art and Exhibitions Sub-Committee of the Liverpool Corporation propose, if suitable arrangements can be made, to hold in the Walker Gallery an Exhibition of Art Decoration and Art applied to Manufactures during the months of April, May, June, and July, 1889. The proposed exhibition will include tapestry, embroidery, wall-papers, ceramics, wood carving, and turning, metal wares, bookbinding, and art work generally.

THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASS POPULATION.

A great meeting will be held in St. James's Hall under the auspices of the London Liberal and Radical Union on the 14th of February, to consider the question of the better housing of the industrial classes. This meeting, which was resolved on several weeks ago, is the result of a careful investigation of the subject by a Special Committee appointed by the Executive of the London Liberal and Radical Union, consisting of Earl Compton, Mr. R. T. Reid, Q.C., M.P., Dr. Cooper, Mr. Percy Bunting, Mr. Eccleston Gibb, Mr. Lee Roberts, Mr. Theodore Dodd, and Mr. Charles Harrison.

SOMETHING NOVEL IN THE SWINDLING LINE.

Mr. George W. Childs, of Philadelphia, was, it is stated, startled the other morning by a claimant for charity who walked into his study with the announcement, made in apparent desperation, "Mr. Childs, I am an embezzler and a thief." The man then appealed for £400 to save himself and family from ruin, also saying that he was the cashier of a Philadelphia bank at which Mr. Childs was well known. Mr. Childs decided that he had never seen the man before, and investigation later showed that the assumption of criminality was simply a dodge to extract money from the philanthropist. The ruse was not successful.

CADBURY'S COCOA is a refined concentration of the strength-sustaining principles of the flesh-forming constituents of the Cocoa-nib. Delicious, nutritious easily digested, and of great economy a sixpenny packet yielding fourteen large breakfast cups of perfect Cocoa. It is absolutely pure.

THE SUICIDE OF THE CROWN PRINCE.

TERRIBLE AND TOUCHING DETAILS.

HOW HIS LAST HOURS WERE SPENT.

Slowly the sad facts respecting the suicide of the Crown Prince are coming to light. It seems that on Tuesday morning the Prince seemed to wish to remain indoors, giving as an excuse that he had caught cold, but, perhaps because he saw no opportunity for committing suicide, which he must unquestionably have contemplated, went out shooting with his two guests for some hours. The party returned early, as the Crown Prince and the Prince of Coburg were to leave for Vienna to attend the family dinner. To divert suspicion, Prince Rudolph fixed the hour for the following morning's shooting, but it is tolerably certain that he had made up his mind to make use of the opportunity afforded by his brother-in-law's absence.

NERVING HIMSELF FOR DEATH.

The Crown Prince locked himself into his room, after sending his valet, Loschek, to bed. When quite alone, Prince Rudolph wrote to his father, but possibly destroyed many copies of the letter before finally signing the one which reached the Emperor, as the message is dated Wednesday, and not Tuesday. The candles which stood on his dressing-table were burned to the socket when the Prince was found—a proof that they must have been burning for five or six hours, during which time Prince Rudolph was, presumably, pacing his room, and nerving himself for the desperate act.

"I WILL REST A LITTLE MORE."

The Prince was, however, seen once more before he killed himself. Loschek asserts that his master came, half dressed, out of his bedroom on Wednesday morning, at half-past six, and said, "What about our shooting this morning? Is it time?" Loschek answered, "It is too early yet; it is still quite dark." The Prince went back into his bedroom, saying, "I will rest a little more." The Crown Prince evidently wanted to know whether the Prince of Coburg had returned from Vienna, and learning indirectly that he had not, but knowing he must soon be back—perhaps at six, as breakfast was ordered for seven o'clock—he sent Loschek away, locked the door, and committed the act, probably after another terrible mental struggle. Death must have been instantaneous. The Prince placed the muzzle of the revolver behind his right ear, and the bullet, taking an upward course through the brain, came out near the middle of the forehead, after fracturing the skull.

THE DISCOVERY.

Finding the door bolted, Loschek when he went to wake the Crown Prince, knocked repeatedly, and, as no answer was returned, continued to knock for a whole hour. Although growing more and more alarmed, he did nothing till the Prince of Coburg and Count Hoyos arrived. They, after knocking for some time without result, at first tried to break down the door, but afterwards entered the bedchamber through an adjoining room, the door of which was presumably more easy to force. They found the Crown Prince lying on the bed, and at his side, under the right arm, was a revolver, which had apparently fallen from his hand. The two gentlemen rushed from the room in terrible agitation, sent the servants away, and locked the doors, which were not opened again until the arrival from Vienna of Dr. Widerhofer and of the members of the Crown Prince's household.

SO THAT HE MIGHT SEE HIMSELF.

If further proof of suicide was wanted, it is supplied by the position in which some of the articles in the bedroom at Meyerling were found at the time of the Crown Prince's decease. Quite close to the bed on which he lay dead, there was found a toilet glass, which usually stood in the opposite corner of the room, and on this toilet glass was a candle-glass, so arranged that a person sitting on the bed was able easily to look into it. The inference is that the Crown Prince used these glasses to guide himself when he pointed the revolver at his right temple.

THE CROWN PRINCE'S LAST LETTERS.

Both the Emperor and the Empress received a letter from the Crown Prince, which he had written during the night, that to the Empress being the thicker of the two. These are the only letters in which the deceased Prince can have stated the reasons which drove him to the desperate act. He wrote many more, but they are said to have made no reference to the subject of his intended suicide. These other letters he had enclosed in envelopes addressed to certain persons in Vienna, with the request that they would re-address and post them to their ultimate destinations. By this arrangement he probably designed to secure that they should not come to hand before Wednesday evening, probably on account of his uncertainty as to finding a suitable opportunity for the act before Wednesday. There is no doubt that the Prince had made up his mind to commit the act in Meyerling.

THOUGHTS OF SUICIDE FOR MANY YEARS.

The Crown Prince had entertained thoughts of committing suicide for many years, at least since June, 1886. At that time, when returning from the funeral of King Ludwig II. of Bavaria, he said to some intimate friends, "I fear that my end will be as his." His reason for harbouring such ideas can only be guessed. The most probable cause was the statement of the physicians that the Princess Stéphanie could have no more children, and the consequent unhappiness of his domestic life.

A WRETCHED UNION.

The *Standard* correspondent says it was the conflict between his sense of duty towards himself and towards others which drove him to suicide. His marriage, which he hoped would turn out so happily, was rendered by circumstances the most wretched of unions, although husband and wife loved each other fondly, perhaps even to excess. Being unable to live in such agony of mind, he was tempted to destroy himself, and, as the world now knows, yielded to the temptation after a long and bitter struggle.

"WHO WILL BE THE NEXT?"

Other proofs are now given of the fact that Prince Rudolph was never free from the thought of early death. At the last meeting of the contributors to his work, "Austria-Hungary with Pen and Pencil," the Crown Prince, as chairman, opened the proceedings with an eulogy of a contributor who had recently died. Suddenly, and with great emotion, he exclaimed, "Who will be the next?"

"IN CASE I SHOULD DIE."

The Crown Prince made his will two years ago, and added a codicil last week, assigning to M. von Szögyenyi, Chief of Section in the Foreign Ministry, the arrangement of the documents entrusted to his care. A few weeks ago he sent all his family papers and his will to M. de Szögyenyi-Marisch, asking him to put them in order. M. de Szögyenyi, having illness in his house, was unable to attend to the Prince's affairs or to see him. Last week he received a note from the Prince, in which the latter regretted the delay, adding, "In any case, I rely upon you to take care of my papers, in case I should suddenly die."

"I WILL REMAIN WITH MY SON."

The Emperor, who has brief intervals of calm in his great sorrow, has refused to leave Vienna until the funeral is over, saying—"I will remain with my son." The Empress has frequent attacks of fainting, and the Princess Stéphanie presents a most pitiable spectacle of grief. Serious fears are entertained concerning her. Since Wednesday the Emperor is said to have aged twenty years, and the members of the Imperial family are not without apprehensions for his health.

HOW THE TRUTH CAME OUT.

The clumsy officials who tried to give currency to the fiction of apoplexy by stopping telegrams and confiscating newspapers forgot, says the *Times* correspondent, that some honourable men of the medical profession in Vienna would have to certify in the last instance as to the cause of death, and that M. Tisza, the Prime Minister of Hungary, would have to give his sanction to any document deposited in the State archives. To the signal credit of Professors Wiederhofer, Auchenthaler, and Kundrat, the Court physicians who conducted the post-mortem examination, it must be stated that these gentlemen absolutely refused to put their signatures to an untruth. It was represented to the Court physicians that every death comes from Herzschlag, that is, stoppage of blood at the heart, and that consequently they would be saying nothing untrue in signing a certificate in vague terms. They declined, however, to adopt any course except signing nothing, or declaring the truth. Thereupon M. Tisza said that he was responsible to the Hungarian Parliament and nation, and that he must insist on the facts being published. Count Kalnoky supported him. It seems that a wail arose among those functionaries who hold with the old Austrian red-tape idea that Government can only be carried on by mystery; but by one o'clock the Emperor had given his *imprimatur* to the report of the Court physicians, and it was at once carried to the printer of the official *Wiener Zeitung*.

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

"IVANHOE" AT CHELSEA BARRACKS.

GRENADIER GUARDSMEN MAKE A MESS OF SCOTT.

At the Chelsea Barracks Theatre, under distinguished patronage, last evening, the Guards Burlesque Company gave a very enjoyable entertainment, consisting of Mr. E. C. Nugent's clever burlesque, "The Real Truth about Ivanhoe; or, the Scott Scotched." The tale, if any there be, is of the most mixed up character. Maid Marian is Rebecca's maid, Robin Hood the intimate chum of Ivanhoe. Isaac of York is a pawnbroker, and Cedric the Saxon a doddering idiot. Sir Brian de Bois Guilbert is a doughty though villainous knight, and Richard Cœur de Lion is nowhere. He does not appear. Rowena, the fair and sweet Rowena, is represented by a man! There is an old-fashioned and kindly custom which makes it almost a crime to criticise amateurs. Perhaps it were well to abide by the custom, yet one cannot avoid a few words of praise to Lieutenant George Nugent, whose Lieutenant-Colonel Robin Hood of the Merry Greenwood Volunteers was very funny. Nor did the Ivanhoe of Lieutenant B. J. Livett, of the Scots Guards, come short in general excellence of conception and carrying out. The Rowena of Lieutenant H. R. Compton-Roberts, of the Grenadier Guards, is a thing to be seen. The "topical" duet between this gentleman (or lady?) and Mr. Nugent was excellent: "Will it happen again, I wonder?" is the refrain, which comes in between lines full of satire on those who complain of the incapacity of the army. And when Rowena leers at every male creature who comes on to the stage and whispers fatuously, "That is a man methinks that I could love!" the whole house roars with laughter. Colonel Ricardo, Grenadier Guards, as Cedric; Lieutenant B. J. Livett, as Ivanhoe; Captain F. C. Ricardo, Grenadier Guards, as Sir Brian; Lieutenant Francis Sandford, Grenadier Guards, as Isaac; Lieutenant George MacDonald, Grenadier Guards, as Gurth; Lieutenant Sir Hubert Miller, Bart., Coldstream Guards, as Wamba; Lieutenant Sir A. Webster, Bart., as Captain Little-John, were all equally good. A word of praise is due to the clog dance of Private W. Stewart and Drummer A. Phillips, of the Grenadier Guards, in which they were loudly applauded by the fair hands of that queen of dancers Miss Kate Vaughan herself. That lady was as fascinating as she always is in the character of Rebecca, and danced with a grace she never excelled in her palmiest days the *pas de deux* with Ivanhoe, reminding one of those wonderful waltzes at the Gaiety with Royce in the olden days. Miss Jenny McNulty was the prettiness itself, and the Misses Shirley and Heathcote added much to the piquancy of the performance. The burlesque was preceded by Mr. S. Grundy's one act drama "In Honour Bound," played well by Captain Ricardo, Sir A. Webster, Miss Scarlett, and Miss St. Maur. Among the large audience were Lord and Lady Lonsdale, Lady Waterford, Lord Fife, Lord Kintore, Mrs. Crutchley, Mrs. Woolton, Lady Claud Hamilton, Lord Northbrook, Colonel Thynne, C.B., Colonel C. S. Corkran, Colonel the Hon. H. F. Eaton, and many more. The performance was received with great satisfaction, encores being the order of the night.

EARLY NESTING IN SCOTLAND.

There has been discovered a starling's nest with four young ones, in an old ash tree in front of Teviotside House, situate on the river Teviot, about six miles above Hawick. Such an occurrence in the month of January is unprecedented in the district.

A yellowhammer's nest, with eggs, has been found on the farm of Holmes, occupied by Mr. John Elder, in the parish of Uphall. Many strawberry plants in the garden of ex-provost Burnie, Merkland, Moffatt, are at present in full blossom. Primroses are almost everywhere to be seen in excellent bloom, but the bulbous-rooted spring flowers have made little progress during the past few weeks.

MILTON'S HOUSE AT WESTMINSTER.

The large plot of "desirable" land, says the *Whitehall Review*, which is advertised for sale in York-street, Westminster, almost opposite or rather under the overtowering pile of the Queen Anne Mansions, lies in a thoroughfare which, little known to Londoners, is none the less of considerable interest. In 1651, when the author of "Paradise Lost" quitted his official residence at Scotland-yard, which will itself soon be a memory of the past, he moved to "a pretty house next to Lord Scudamore, and opening into the park" in York-street, and here it was the poet lost first his sight and then his beloved wife. From this pleasant house in "Petty France," as it was then known, the aged poet followed to her grave at St. Margaret's the loving companion whom he had only brought hither a year before, and here, with Andrew Marvell as his secretary, and looking out on to the greenery of St. James's Park, Milton wrote his "Second Defence of the People of England."

SHE CARRIED HER BABES IN A WHEELBARROW.

A woman who was taken to the county almshouse from Bellefontaine, Ohio, U.S., a few days ago, with her three children, escaped one night, and, taking a wheelbarrow, loaded her babies into it, and walked and wheeled them ten miles to her former home. Her pluck is so much admired that she will be assisted with work and money, and will not be obliged to return.

The Emperor visited Prince Bismarck yesterday afternoon, and had Count Herbert and William Bismarck to tea with him.

In December last a Chinese scientific expedition, under the learned functionary Miao, arrived at Irkutsk.

Mr. Maple, M.P., leaves to-day for Monte Carlo and Northern Italy, returning for the opening of Parliament.

Captain Warton's team has beaten the Transvaal Twenty-two by ten wickets. In their second innings, Abel and Hearne defied the hostile bowling, making 78 and 46 not out respectively.

Miss Ryland, of Barford, who died on Monday, has left £36,000 to charities and £300,000 in personal legacies.

The New York tramcar strike is declining. The companies are running more cars, and will finally win.

Miss Hadland, principal of Milton Mount College, has just tendered her resignation to the Rev. J. C. Harrison, as chairman of the board of management.

Mr. Charles Spurgeon, of Greenwich, has been suffering so much with his head that the doctor has ordered him away for a voyage. He accordingly leaves for New Zealand next week.

The bill for the *scrutin d'arrondissement*, laid before the French Chamber yesterday, contains a temporary proviso prohibiting by-election until the end of the present present Parliament.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal will produce Mr. Sydney Grundy's new play at Nottingham next week, probably on Wednesday.

Three out of the four police witnesses charged with conspiracy and perjury in the Edlingham burglary case, in which two men were wrongly convicted in 1879, were committed for trial at Alnwick yesterday.

At the opening of a new building for the public library at Grangemouth a cablegram of congratulation upon the ceremony was read from Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie, New York, who contributed a sum of money towards the library.

The Queen keeps the forty-ninth anniversary of her wedding day on the 10th inst., which falls this year on a Sunday, at Osborne. Her Majesty's health is usually drunk on the occasion by the Royal household, while the memory of the late Prince Consort is honoured in silence.

The State apartments at Windsor Castle remain open to visitors at present but will shortly be closed in anticipation of the return of the Court from the Isle of Wight, which, according to the latest arrangements, is expected to take place on Friday week, the 15th inst.

Mr. Balfour received a deputation in Dublin Castle yesterday on the question of Sunday Closing in Ireland, and promised that if a bill on the subject were not brought in as a Government measure, Ministers would do all in their power to aid in its promotion by a private member.

It is said that a sister of Miss Mary Anderson will shortly make her *début* either in the English provinces or in the United States. She is understood to possess a good deal of the dramatic talent of her popular sister.

Mr. Harris has, it is stated, about settled that the projected revival of Gounod's "Romeo et Juliette" at the Royal Italian Opera this season shall be in the French language.

The health of the Right Hon. Sir Harry Verney, Bart., is far from satisfactory. Sir Andrew Clark, Bart., went down to Claydon to see him yesterday The attack of inflammation of the lungs from which he suffered some weeks ago has not altogether subsided.

Mr. J. H. Sorrell, one of the managers of the soup kitchen at Ann's place, Pritchard's-road, Hackney, desires to acknowledge the receipt of £10 from A. H., of Streatham. Dinners are supplied to poor school children twice a week. Last Friday 220 dinners were served. School teachers in the neighbourhood are giving efficient help in the carrying on of the work.

Some proprietary seats at the Royal Albert Hall were sold by auction on Friday, and fetched little more than half their value, the highest price realized being 62 guineas each for two £100 stalls. The purchaser was Mr. Peacock, a wholesale egg merchant, and a large holder of stalls at this hall. Seats in this building are, however, now subject to an annual rent charge of £2 per cent. on the purchase money.

"CLEANING SILVER."—All difficulty in keeping silver, electro-plate, &c., untarnished and with a brilliant polish, may be obviated by using GODDARD'S NON-MERCURIAL PLATE POWDER. Sold everywhere, in boxes 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. Four Gold Medals awarded.

WHAT I BELIEVE AND WHAT I DO NOT.

THE AGNOSTIC'S CREED. BY PROFESSOR HUXLEY.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY contributes to the *Nineteenth Century* a remarkable article on "Agnosticism," partly controversial, but largely autobiographical, in which he draws up his creed and explains how he came by it. We extract the more salient passages.

HIS STARTING-POINT IN YOUTH.

I was brought up in the strictest school of Evangelical orthodoxy; and when I was old enough to think for myself I started upon my journey of inquiry with little doubt about the general truth of what I had been taught; and with that feeling of the unpleasantness of being called an "infidel" which, we are told, is so right and proper. Near my journey's end, I find myself in a condition of something more than mere doubt about these matters. Looking back nearly fifty years, I see myself as a boy whose education had been interrupted, and who, intellectually, was left for some years altogether to his own chances. At that time I was a voracious and omnivorous reader; a dreamer and speculator of the first water, well endowed with that splendid courage in attacking any and every subject which is the blessed compensation of youth and inexperience.

BOOKS THAT INFLUENCED ME.

Among the books and essays, on all sorts of topics, from metaphysics to heraldry, which I read at this time, two left indelible impressions on my mind. One was Guizot's "History of Civilization," the other was Sir William Hamilton's essay "On the Philosophy of the Unconditioned," which I came upon, by chance, in an odd volume of the *Edinburgh Review*. The latter was certainly strange reading for a boy, and I could not possibly have understood a great deal of it; nevertheless, I devoured it with avidity, and it stamped upon my mind the strong conviction that on even the most solemn and important of questions men are apt to take cunning phrases for answers; and that the limitation of our faculties, in a great number of cases, renders real answers to such questions, not merely actually impossible, but theoretically inconceivable.

HOW MY MIND GREW.

Philosophy and history having laid hold of me in this eccentric fashion, have never loosened their grip. I have no pretension to be an expert in either subject; but the turn for philosophical and historical reading, which rendered Hamilton and Guizot attractive to me, has not only filled many lawful leisure hours, and still more sleepless ones, with the repose of changed mental occupation, but has not unfrequently disputed my proper work-time with my liege lady, Natural Science. In this way I have found it possible to cover a good deal of ground in the territory of philosophy. The reader will now see why my mind steadily gravitated towards the conclusions of Hume and Kant.

THE ORIGIN OF THE TERM AGNOSTIC.

When I reached intellectual maturity and began to ask myself whether I was an atheist, a theist, or a pantheist, a materialist or an idealist; a Christian or a freethinker; I found that the more I learned and reflected, the less ready was the answer; until, at last, I came to the conclusion that I had neither art nor part with any of these denominations, except the last. The one thing in which most of these good people were agreed was the one thing in which I differed from them. They were quite sure they had attained a certain "gnosis"—had, more or less successfully, solved the problem of existence; while I was quite sure I had not, and had a pretty strong conviction that the problem was insoluble. This was my situation when I had the good fortune to find a place among the members of the Metaphysical Society. Most of my colleagues were -ists of one sort or another. I who was a man without a rag of a label to cover myself with, felt like the fox who had lost his tail. So I took thought and invented what I conceived to be the appropriate title of agnostic. It came into my head as suggestively antithetic to the gnostic of Church history, who professed to know so much about the very things of which I was ignorant, and I took the earliest opportunity of parading it at our society, to show that I, too, had a tail like the other foxes. To my great satisfaction the term took.

THE AGNOSTIC'S RULE OF LIFE.

Agnosticism is not a creed, but a method, the essence of which lies in the rigorous application of a single principle. That principle is of great antiquity; it is as old as Socrates; as old as the writer who said, "Try all things, hold fast by that which is good;" it is the foundation of the Reformation, which simply illustrated the axiom that every man should be able to give a reason for the faith that is in him; it is the great principle of Descartes; it is the fundamental axiom of modern Science. Positively the principle may be expressed; In matters of the intellect, follow your reason as far as it will take you, without regard to any other consideration. And negatively: In matters of the intellect, do not pretend that conclusions are certain which are not demonstrated or demonstrable. That I take to be the agnostic faith, which if a man keep whole and undefiled, he shall not be ashamed to look the universe in the face, whatever the future may have in store for him. The only obligation accepted is to have the mind always open to conviction. If you were to find an agnostic who never failed in carrying out his principles, and to tell him that you had discovered that two and two make five, he would patiently ask you to state your reasons for that conviction, and express his readiness to agree with you if he found them satisfactory. The apostolic injunction to "suffer fools gladly," should be the rule of life of a true agnostic. I am deeply conscious how far I myself fall short of this ideal, but it is my personal conception of what agnostics ought to be.

WHAT I THINK OF MAN.

I know no study which is so unutterably saddening as that of the evolution of humanity, as it is set forth in the annals of history. Out of the darkness of prehistoric ages man emerges with the marks of his lowly origin strong upon him. He is a brute, only more intelligent than the other brutes; a blind prey to impulses, which as often as not lead him to destruction; a victim to endless illusions, which make his mental existence a terror and a burden, and fill his physical life with barren toil and battle. He attains a certain degree of physical comfort, and develops a more or less workable theory of life in such favourable situations as the plains of Mesopotamia and of Egypt, and then for thousands and thousands of years struggles with varying fortune, attended by infinite wickedness, bloodshed, and misery, to maintain himself at this point against the greed and ambition of his fellow men. He makes a point of killing and otherwise persecuting all those who first try to get him to move on; and when he has moved on a step foolishly confers post mortem deification on his victims. He exactly repeats the process with all who want to move a step yet farther; and the best men of the best epochs are simply those who make the fewest blunders and commits the fewest sins.

WHAT I THINK OF CHRIST.

In the course of other inquiries, I have had to do with fossil remains which looked quite plain at a distance, and became more and more indistinct as I tried to define their outline by close inspection. There was something there—something which, if I could win assurance about it, might mark a new epoch in the history of the earth; but, study as long as I might, certainly eluded my grasp. So has it been with me in my efforts to define the grand figure of Jesus as it lies in the primary strata of Christian literature. Is He the kindly, peaceful Christ depicted in the Catacombs? Or is He the stern judge who frowns above the altar of SS. Cosmas and Damianus? Or can He be rightly represented in the bleeding ascetic, broken down by physical pain, of too many mediæval pictures? Are we to accept the Jesus of the second, or the Jesus of the fourth gospel, as the true Jesus? What did He really say and do; and how much that is attributed to Him in speech and action is the embroidery of the various parties into which His followers tended to split themselves within twenty years of His death, when even the threefold tradition was only nascent?

AND OF CHRISTIANITY.

That one should rejoice in the good man; forgive the bad man; and pity and help all men to the best of one's ability, is surely indisputable. It is the glory of Judaism and of Christianity to have proclaimed this truth, through all their aberrations. I verily believe that the great good which has been effected by Christianity has been largely counteracted by the pestilent doctrine on which all the Churches have insisted, that honest disbelief in their more or less astonishing creeds is a moral offence—indeed, a sin of the deepest dye, deserving and involving the same future retribution as murder and robbery. If we could only see, in one view, the torrents of hypocrisy and cruelty, the lies, the slaughter, the violations of every obligation of humanity, which have flowed from this source along the course of the history of Christian nations, our worst imaginations of hell would pale beside the vision. I am much disposed to think that the encouragement, the consolation, and the peace afforded to earnest believers in even the worst forms of Christianity are of great practical advantage to them. What deductions must be made from this gain on the score of the harm done to the citizen, the ruler, the legislator, the philosopher, and the conscientious soul, I need not now consider; but they are assuredly not small. If agnostics lose heavily on the one side, they gain a good deal on the other.

POSITIVISM WILL NOT SUCCEED CHRISTIANITY.

Whoso calls to mind what I may venture to term the bright side of Christianity; that ideal of manhood, with its strength and its patience; its justice and its pity for human frailty; its helpfulness, to the extremity of self-sacrifice; its ethical purity and nobility; which apostles have pictured, in which armies of martyrs have placed their unshakable faith, and whence obscure men and women, like Catherine of Sienna and John Knox have derived the courage to rebuke popes and kings, is not likely to underrate the importance of the Christian faith as a factor in human history, or to doubt that if that faith should prove to be incompatible with our knowledge, or necessary want of knowledge, some other hypostasis of men's hopes, genuine enough and worthy enough to replace it, will arise. But that the incongruous mixture of bad science with eviscerated papistry, the new anthropolatry known as positivism will not climb into the vacant shrine. But when the positivist asks me to worship "Humanity"—that is to say, to adore the generalized conception of men as they ever have been and probably ever will be—I must reply that I could just as soon bow down and worship the generalized conception of a "wilderness of apes."

THE STRAIGHT PATH THAT LEADS—WHITHER?

I had, and have, the firmest conviction that I never left the "verace via"—the straight road; and that this road led nowhere else but into the dark depths of a wild and tangled forest. And though I have found leopards and lions in the path; though I have made abundant acquaintance with the hungry wolf, that "with privy paw devours apace and nothing said," as another great poet says of the ravening beast; and though no friendly spectre as even yet offered his guidance, I was, and am, minded to go straight on, until I either come out on the other side of the wood, or find there is no other side to it, at least, none attainable by me.

INDIAN CIVIL SERVANTS AND THEIR RIGHTS

THE HARD CASE OF MR. JAMES FERNANDEZ, C.E.

WHAT security has an Indian civil servant that he will not lose his claims to a pension if he happens to fall out with one of his superiors before he completes his term of service? No security at all, it would seem, if we may judge from the hard case of Mr. James T. Fernandez, C.E., who has for the last year been vainly endeavouring to induce Sir John Gorst—who for practical purposes seems to be the India Office—to grant him the fair trial to which he is entitled under the conditions of service. The facts of the case briefly are as follows:—

Mr. Fernandez, a Spaniard by birth, entered our Civil Service in India as far back as 1872. He had the best testimonials as to his capacity, industry, zeal, and tact from his superior officers. When the Afghan war broke out he was entrusted with the responsible duty of conveying dynamite from Kurrachee to the advanced section of the Candahar railway. He was in charge of a convoy of five thousand men, with 1½ lacs of treasure, during 1880, at the time of the Murrie raid. He narrowly escaped with his life, his horse being shot under him, and he lost all his luggage in his retreat. He continued in the service after the war, and as recently as 1882 was highly reported on to the Government of India by Mr. F. B. Walker, engineer-in-chief. It was not until he had put in 13½ years of service that a difference arose between him and his superior officers, Lieut.-Col. F. D. N. Brown, a superintendent of works in the North-west Provinces, and Mr. O'Callaghan, engineer in chief of the Bolan Railway. Mr. Fernandez may have been guilty of all the offences which they laid to his charge, or he may not. The question is not whether Mr. Fernandez is or is not guilty, but whether in treating him as guilty the Indian Government has been careful to observe those conditions of fair trial and full inquiry which are indispensable for the protection of subordinates against the prejudice or ill-will of their superior. The following are the charges brought against Mr. Fernandez, set side by side with his replies:—

ACCUSATION.	REFUTATION.
1. He consolidated two miles of roads without authority.	1. The road metal was collected and paid before he arrived. He used it in consolidating portions of road that were in bad condition.
2. He left his station, Hurdai, without orders.	2. I left it three days before time on medical certificate issued under rules by civil surgeon, certificate sent into Government.
3. He dismantled Fort Muchee Bowin, at Lucknow, in unsatisfactory fashion.	3. I dismantled it as well as was possible under the imperfect drawings, plans, and estimates drawn up against rules, by executive engineer, who has never been punished.
4. He bought stores without authorization.	4. I proved to the Government that I made no purchases directly; all that I had to do was to transfer indents from competent authorities to vendors. And this was only done when necessary to meet exigencies of the public service.

Mr. Fernandez thus had a reply to every charge, and if his statements be correct, a very satisfactory reply. We do not for a moment wish to raise a discussion in these columns as to the respective responsibilities of the engineer and Mr. Fernandez for the unsatisfactory dismantling of the Fort Muchee Bowin, at Lucknow. All that we are concerned with, is whether these charges and replies were subjected to inquiry. Had Mr. Fernandez, in short, an opportunity of proving that he was wrongfully accused, and that he was free from blame on each of the four counts of the indictment against him? Mr. Fernandez asserts that there never was any such inquiry. We confess that this seems incredible. He maintains, however, that he repeatedly asked for a committee to try his case, but without success. He was dismissed the service without trial on the report of two officers with whom he was personally not on good terms, and to this day he has never had an opportunity of being heard in his own defence. The result of this is that he has lost his employment, forfeited his pension, and is practically a ruined man. Sir John Gorst sees no reason why he should interfere. The question, however, is of a far wider interest than the rights or wrongs of Mr. Fernandez. His case raises the whole question of the tenure by which Indian civil servants hold their offices. If Mr. Fernandez's case is allowed to form a precedent, it would seem that any civil servant may be broken and cast out a ruined man, without trial and without redress, if he should be on bad terms with his superior officer.

THE GERMANS AND THE BISMARCK ARTICLE.

The following summaries of the *Contemporary* article were telegraphed to Germany:—

The *Kölnische Zeitung*:—"The *Standard*, with evident pleasure, elaborates in one of its leading articles extracts from the *Contemporary* article entitled 'The Bismarck Dynasty.' In it the threadbare joke is dished up once again that Prince Bismarck, who is ageing, wants to found a dynasty of Otto I. and Otto II. The article brings up all the invective which can be found in Bonnefon's volume, 'Drame Impérial.' The only new thing is a reference to the diary of Frederick III.; the Emperor is said to have made entries up to a few days before his death, regarding Bismarck's position to Puttkammer. If this is true the conclusion may be drawn that the anonymous author of the article in the *Contemporary* must have been near the Emperor Frederick. Altogether, the paper reads like an epilogue to Mackenzie's book."

The *Vossische Zeitung*:—"A very severe article appears in the *Contemporary*, which will not fail to create the greatest sensation in Germany if German papers have the courage to reproduce this literary attack on the Chancellor of the Empire. To-day's *Standard* publishes extracts from the article, and remarks that it will add new venom to the painful controversy which has raged so long above the grave of the Emperor Frederick. If the revelations are not the product of malicious invention, the article must either be inspired by august personages, or owe its piquant details to a breach of confidence. The article forms a determined, very hostile attack on Prince Bismarck, his system, and his plans, and represents the Chancellor in a painful light."

DRESSED HORSEFLESH AS HUMAN FOOD.

At Gorton police-court the other day John Henry Rushton, butcher, 185, Ashton-road, Openshaw, was charged with offering diseased meat for sale. Mr. Crofton said that on the day in question the nuisance inspector (Mr. Stansfield) of the board paid a visit to the shop of the defendant, and there found three-quarters of a beast and some liver, apparently diseased. A seizure was made, and on the report of Mr. Locke, veterinary surgeon, Manchester, the meat was condemned by Mr. Cooke, one of the county magistrates. The meat was in a horrible state. Mr. Stansfield, on being called, said in reply to the bench that the meat was dressed for sale in the ordinary way. It was horse beef. It was stated that the accused had several shops in Manchester and Salford. He was sent to prison for three months.

IN THE BUSINESS WORLD.

LEGISLATION AGAINST TRUSTS.

A number of bills against trusts and trade combinations have been introduced into the State legislatures of the United States. Some of these are general in their character, but in some instances they are directed against special trusts, such as one against the coal combinations in Pennsylvania. The ground on which the proposed legislation is based is that these trusts are in restraint of trade, and it is proposed to make all contracts made in connection with them void.

LIQUIDATING AN IRISH BANK.

The affairs of the Munster Bank have been wound up with a promptitude and economy which does credit to the official liquidators. The bank stopped payment on the 14th July, 1885, and the liquidation began on the 12th September of the same year. The creditors of the bank numbered 19,000 and the liabilities amounted to £2,674,000. Of this amount half a million was due to the Bank of Ireland and the Union Bank of London, both of which were fully secured. These secured debts were paid off, and the securities released within the first three months of the liquidation. All claims under £15 were also paid in full. The claims of unsecured creditors admitted before the end of the first year amounted to close on two millions, and on this amount a dividend of 10*s.* in the pound was declared on the 31st of March, and a second of 5*s.* on the 29th of September, 1886, so that within fifteen months from the stoppage close on two millions were made available for distribution. The nominal assets of the bank at the time of its suspension were £3,435,000, but the real value was soon found to be insufficient to pay off the creditors, and the liquidators made a call of £2 per share on the shareholders of the company, which produced £206,000. The liability remaining of 5*s.* in the pound was equal to £491,000 and the remaining assets were valued at £639,000, which left an apparent surplus of £149,000. In view, however, of the possible delay in realizing much of these remaining assets it was agreed to hand over the whole to the Munster and Leinster Bank on the condition of their paying off the remaining liabilities. This the bank named has done, and the liquidation has now been completed. The total expenses of the liquidation from the commencement has been £62,270, or rather less than 3 per cent. of the amount of cash which passed through the liquidation accounts.

ARGENTINIA IN 1888.

According to the Buenos Ayres papers, the Argentine Republic never had such a prosperous year as 1888. The foreign trade is estimated at 50 millions sterling, which is six millions greater than in 1887, and more than double what it was seven years ago. The imports were estimated to exceed the exports by eight millions. The advance of the gold premium to nearly 54 per cent., a higher level than was reached last year, is not a satisfactory sign, but larger exports of wool, wheat, and frozen meat are looked for, and thereby the exchange may turn in favour of the country. Perhaps the most striking feature of the year was the wholesale borrowing abroad and the active promotion of joint-stock companies at home. Capital to the extent of fifteen millions sterling for various joint-stock purposes was asked for during the year, certainly an enormous sum for a country with a population of four millions, however great its natural advantages. The paper circulation of the Republic is also assuming enormous proportions. During the past year new issues were authorized to the extent of 44 millions of dollars, bringing the total paper circulation of the Republic up to 136½ million dollars. As a set off to the addition to the paper currency last year the Argentine Government has the gold received from London, which is considered to be equivalent in amount.

THE PROPOSED PETROLEUM LEGISLATION.

Apropos of the article on safe and dangerous oil lamps published in the *Pall Mall Gazette* last Saturday, our attention has been called to the attitude of the trade towards the new Petroleum Bill. "By this further legislation," Messrs. S. Bowley and Son write, "this important business will be hampered by a number of harassing restrictions, with constant official supervision to no practical purpose, as the statistics in regard to accidents prove that accidents nearly all occur in the use of lamps in the hands of consumers, over which the trade has no possible control. In all the large devastating fires, petroleum has been conspicuously absent as a factor. This is not exclusively a trade question, but one affecting the entire community, particularly that class which cannot use gas; and such a measure should meet with their most strenuous opposition. It is true that the trade of the United Kingdom has been consulted upon all the provisions of the new Petroleum Bill, but the trade representatives, after long and careful deliberation for many days, were obliged to pronounce them as positively unworkable. As to the proper mode of storage, there never should be a universal mode adopted and forced upon the trade by any Government without experiment and verification of its superiority over all the existing methods, and the fact that this trade has been carefully conducted for so many years with comparatively so few accidents should be in itself evidence enough in all fairness to prove this measure to be absolutely unnecessary."

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OFFICES.—218 and 219, Winchester House, E.C.

This Trust Company has been formed with the view of providing an organization whereby existing Stocks may be converted into more than one class of security, the income of one portion being thus rendered more secure, and the whole more negotiable and attractive to the general body of investors. There are numerous instances in which stocks possessing almost identical income rights command prices which vary widely because the Stocks to which the income is attached are in different forms. The preferred Stocks resulting from conversions by this Company will provide the public with eligible forms of first-class investment, of which there is at present an admitted dearth, while the deferred stocks will be in demand by those investors who seek, either in income yielded, or in the prospect of improved capital value, a higher return than is obtainable from fixed dividend investments.

During the past year attention has been directed to the advantage obtained by conversion of Ordinary railway stocks into "Preferred" and "Deferred," notably by the rise which has taken place in the North British and Taff Vale Railway Companies' Ordinary Stocks consequent on the schemes of conversion adopted by those Companies.

The unconverted Ordinary Railway Stocks of the country amount to some £180,000,000, and it is estimated that the conversion of these Stocks would raise their value by not less than £27,000,000. The present Company under its powers proposes largely to aid in effecting the conversion of many of these Stocks, and to participate in the consequent profit arising from the operation.

It has hitherto been generally assumed that such schemes of conversion must be adopted and carried out by the Railway Companies themselves. To accomplish this, however, it is necessary for these Companies to obtain the assent of Parliament, and there is consequently a long delay between the proposals for conversion and their being carried into effect. While, therefore, conversion thus effected ensures a large rise in the value of the converted as contrasted with that of the unconverted stock, the delay is accompanied by many disadvantages. In order to overcome these difficulties, this Company has formulated schemes by which the benefits of conversion will be secured as if effected by the Railway Companies themselves, with the advantage of being carried into immediate effect.

Apart from the conversion of Railway Stocks, which is the immediate object of the Company, there is a wide field for profitable business in the conversion of many other first-class Securities. In these operations the Company's functions will generally be limited to those of a Trustee, and it is to give a substantial and permanent guarantee for the due fulfilment of its obligations that so large a proportion of its capital has been constituted "reserve capital."

In carrying out the operations thus projected the Directors anticipate that large dividends will be earned.

The present Shareholders, in accordance with agreements made with them, have subscribed 41,500 Ordinary and the 1,000 Founders' Shares, and the Company has begun business. The proceeds of the Shares now offered for subscription will, in accordance with the powers conferred on the Company under its Articles, be employed in making further purchases of Stock to be embraced in the schemes of conversion to be submitted to the public as soon as possible after the Company's purchases are completed.

By the Articles of Association it is provided that the profits available for dividend in each year are to be first applied in payment of a dividend of 10 per cent. on the amount for the time being paid up on the Ordinary Shares. Further profits belong, one moiety to the ordinary shareholders, and one moiety to the founder shareholders, but the Articles provide that only one-half of such profits shall be divided until a Special Reserve Fund is created, amounting to 25 per cent. of the capital for the time being paid up. This Reserve Fund will belong to the two classes of Shareholders in the proportions specified above.

No promotion money will be paid, and the holders of the Founders' Shares will in terms of the agreements defray all expenses, including brokerage, incidental to the formation of the Company and the issue of the Shares already subscribed, and those now offered for subscription.

Various agreements have been entered into by the Company, besides those referred to above, relating to the conduct of its business, and to avoid all questions as to what is required to be stated under the provisions of Sec. 38 of the Companies Act, 1867, subscribers will be deemed to waive their right under that section to the particulars of any contracts being specified.

Applications for Shares should be made on the form accompanying the Prospectus, and sent with the requisite deposit to the Bankers or Agents in Scotland of the Company. If no allotment is made, deposits will be returned in full. Forms of application can be obtained at the offices of the Company, or from the Company's Bankers, Brokers, or Agents.

The Articles of Association of the Company may be inspected at the Offices of the Solicitors and at the Offices of the Agents in Scotland.

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Head Office—64, Cornhill, London, E.C.
WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

MEXICAN CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY (LIMITED).

Boston, January 30th, 1889

TO THE HOLDERS OF FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS' INCOME BONDS AND SHARES.

The 3,820,000 dols. 10 per cent., Coupon Notes, issued to the First Mortgage Bondholders under the Circular of June 16th, 1884, will be due July 1st, 1889, but may be called in previously by giving thirty days' notice.

The 2,500,000 dols. 10 per cent. Debentures issued, under the Circular of December 23rd, 1884, will be due April 1st, 1895, but may be called in at any time after April 1st, 1890, on like notice.

Substantially all the First Mortgage Bonds are stamped with an agreement that 4 of the 7 per cent. interest shall be paid firm, and the remaining 3 per cent. shall be contingent upon surplus net earnings, but only after payment for "such improvements and additions to the property as the directors deem essential."

These, and also the Income Bonds, will be due July 1st, 1911.

To provide for the Coupon Notes and Debentures at a lower rate of interest; to separate the contingent feature from the First Mortgage Bonds, and give it an appreciable value; to consolidate the indebtedness; to improve the standing of all the securities upon equitable terms, and, at the same time, to protect all parties in interest, the Company makes the following proposal, namely:—

It will issue the following:—

1. Its 5 per cent., 50-year, gold PRIORITY BONDS limited to 80,000,000 dols., and entitled to priority under the Consolidated Mortgage described below. The Company has made certain of receiving 95 net, U.S. currency, for 7,000,000 dols. of these bonds in the event of this plan being satisfactorily carried out, and with the proceeds thus obtained will pay the coupon notes and debentures and the expenses of making the several issues and changes involved. The remaining 1,000,000 dols. of Priority Bonds will be reserved and issued only when the development of business demands additional rolling stock, satisfactory evidence to be given to the Trustee that such rolling stock has been purchased and marked, as subject to the lien of the Consolidated Mortgage.

2. Its 4 per cent., gold, CONSOLIDATED MORTGAGE BONDS, due July 1st, 1911, and limited to 32,000 dols. per mile. These bonds will be exchanged, par for par, with the First Mortgage Bonds, the holder receiving in addition 300 dols. in the First Consolidated Income Bonds described below for each First Mortgage Bond exchanged.

To secure these two issues of bonds the Company will make a consolidated mortgage under date of January 1, 1889, to the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company, trustee, mortgaging its railway and telegraph lines, and all equipment and appurtenances of every kind, and providing also for the deposit with the trustee of the First Mortgage Bonds received in exchange as above, to be kept alive and in force; and also pledging 6,270,000 dols. subsidy, to which the Company is and will be entitled on account of the Guadalajara line already completed and the Tampico Line, which it is constructing and expects to complete this year.

The Trustee of the Consolidated Mortgage will collect any payments made on account of the 3 per cent. contingent interest on the First Mortgage Bonds deposited as above, and so long as the interest is paid on the Priority and Consolidated Mortgage Bonds will apply the proceeds to pay interest, on the two classes of Consolidated Income Bonds hereinafter described, in the order of preference, and any balance to the stockholders.

3. Fifty-year, gold, FIRST CONSOLIDATED INCOME BONDS, limited to three-tenths of the amount of the First Mortgage Bonds, to be given to holders of the latter, as above stated.

4. Fifty-year, U.S. currency, SECOND CONSOLIDATED INCOME BONDS, with right reserved to pay the same on or before July 10, 1929, at 50 per cent. U.S. currency. These bonds will be exchanged, par for par, with the present Income Bonds.

Both classes of Consolidated Incomes are entitled, priority being given to the Firsts, to interest contingent upon surplus net earnings, and non-cumulative, and not exceeding in any year 3 per cent., and they will be issued under one Consolidated Income Indenture, executed under date of January 1, 1889, by the Company and the American Loan and Trust Company, of Boston, Trustee. The present Income Bonds, exchanged as above, will remain in force and be deposited with the Trustee.

By this plan the shareholders pledge substantially all the subsidy not previously pledged, and create a new indebtedness of over 15,000,000 dols., which they give to the First Mortgage Bondholders. In return they secure a reduction of the fixed and contingent interest charges, and the option to pay off the Second Consolidated Income Bonds at 50 per cent. U.S. currency.

The present Income Bondholders agree to accept payment at 50 per cent. of their principal if paid on or before July 10, 1929; and in return the interest on their new security is made more certain by the reduction of the prior interest charges.

The First Mortgage Bondholders, by the creation of the 5 per cent. Priority Bonds in lieu of the present 10 per cent. securities, effect an immediate saving of 280,000 dols. per annum, and their interest and principal, by this reduction in fixed interest and the pledge of the additional subsidy, are rendered more secure. In addition to this they receive a capital sum of 300 dols. with each 1,000 dols. Bond, being over 15,000,000 dols. in all, with contingent interest for 50 years instead of 22.

This plan will improve the financial position of the Company. Upon the completion of the line to Tampico, if the estimates prove correct, the Company will have in its Treasury a reserve of over 5,000,000 dols. in 4 per cent. Consolidated Mortgage Bonds, with corresponding junior securities. The estimates for the Tampico Line include its equipment, and the £1,000,000 dols. Priority Bonds, which form a special reserve as above, will not be issued until the further development of the traffic requires it.

The First Mortgage and Income Bondholders are invited to deposit their bonds on or before February 22nd next with Messrs Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Company, of London, and the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company, of Boston, who will issue temporary receipts therefor, providing for the delivery of the new securities in accordance with the above plan, as soon as they shall have been received by them from the Company on behalf of the bondholders, but reserving the right to return the bonds thus deposited if this plan should not be generally accepted.

LEVI C. WADE, President.

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	20 " "	40 " "	Allotment.
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The remainder of the Bonds can only be issued, from time to time, to meet such requirements, upon the certificates of the Company's officers, and after approval by the Board of Directors, in conformity with the carefully guarded terms of the Mortgage, which has been examined and approved by Messrs. Seward, da Costa, and Guthrie, of New York, counsel to Messrs. Maitland, Phelps, and Co.

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Copies of the Bond, and of the Resolution of the Shareholders authorizing the issue, and of the Deed of Trust conveying the property, with all equipment in use and hereafter to be acquired, to the Central Trust Company of New York, as Trustee to the Bondholders, can be seen at the offices of Heseltine, Powell, and Co., 1, Drapers'-gardens, E.C.

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Chairman.—C. T. MURDOCH, Esq., M.P.
Treasurer.—W. BURDETT-COUTTS, Esq., M.P.

Contributions are earnestly solicited towards the £20,000 required to complete the New Buildings, the first portion of which was opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales in July last.

WILLIAM T. GRANT, Secretary.

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The COMMITTEE Urgently APPEAL for FUNDS to carry out the much needed improvement of Rebuilding the Hospital. £15,000 is required for this object. Donations towards this fund and annual subscriptions are earnestly solicited.

F. C. HOWARD, Secretary.

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